
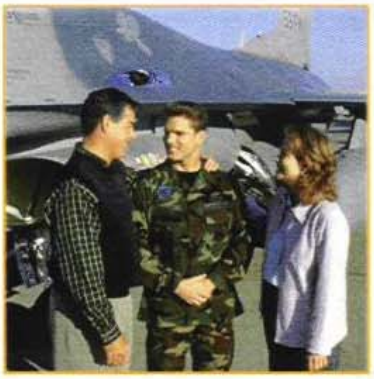






Overview Report

June 2003 Youth Poll 5

Joint Advertising,
Market Research
and Studies

December 2003

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JAMRS Report
December 2003

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
JUNE 2003 YOUTH POLL 5
OVERVIEW REPORT

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The work that was done to collect this information and produce this report was the result of a collaboration of efforts between DHRA, Aon Consulting, the Fors Marsh Group and Wirthlin Worldwide. The authors would like to thank the many youth who shared their time and opinions with us.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The DoD Youth Poll was established in 2001 to measure propensity and to provide recruiters, advertisers, and marketers with a better understanding of the youth population. Each Youth Poll measures propensity, favorability of the military, perceived knowledge of the military, economic indicators and current events. Each Youth Poll also focuses on a topic of interest to the Department of Defense. The June 2003 Youth Poll special focus was on the youth population's eligibility for military service.

Propensity and Standard Measures.
Most propensity results were similar to those from the November 2002 Youth Poll. When asked about future plans (unaided propensity) 5% of males and 2% of females mentioned the military. General military propensity increased significantly among males, with 22% saying they definitely or probably would join the military in the next few years (up from 19% in the November 2002 Youth Poll). Female propensity remained stable with 8% saying they would join the military. Across racial ethnic groups, Hispanics (25%) were significantly more likely to be propensed toward the military than Whites (12%), Blacks (16%) and Others (17%). Reserve composite propensity remained the same as the previous wave with 18% of males and 9% of females saying they were likely to join one or more of the Reserve Components.

Favorability toward the military increased significantly from an average rating of 7.3 in November 2002 to an average rating of 7.8. Youth however reported a relatively low level of self-reported knowledge of the military. The average knowledge of the military rating did increase significantly from 5.2 in November 2002 to 5.6.

In June 2003, 78% of youth said they supported military troops being in Iraq and 71% said they felt the U.S. was justified in its decision to go to war with Iraq. However, when youth were asked whether the war in Iraq made them more or less likely to join the military, only one third (33%) said it made them more likely, while half (52%) said it made them less likely and 15% said it did not change their likelihood to join the military. However, caution should be taken when interpreting these results as it is unclear if the military action has actually changed attitudes.

Special Focus: Youth Eligibility for Military Service.
The special focus of this poll is on the youth population's eligibility for military service. Previous studies within the Department of Defense have attempted to look at national rates from other surveys on the key military qualification standards to estimate the number of youth who would be eligible for service. The June 2003 Youth Poll goes one step further in that it allows for specific estimation of the overlap among key reasons for disqualification and also with propensity. As a result, the report is able to compare eligibility of the total youth population with those who are propensed to serve in the military.

Enlistment requirements can be generally categorized as moral character standards (e.g., legal, drug and alcohol use), physical and medical standards (e.g., overweight status, medical conditions), dependents, and other general standards (e.g., citizenship, aptitude, education).

Based on the estimation from this poll, 58% of youth are ineligible for the military because of physical/medical reasons, moral reasons or due to the number of dependents they have. This leaves only 42% of the 16-21 year old population eligible for military service. Those disqualified are outlined below by category. Again, there is overlap within categories and between categories

as many youth were ineligible for multiple reasons. The overall estimate within each category or across all categories can be relied on as it provides figures for the proportion of youth who are ineligible for one or more than one reason.

- Roughly 6% of the youth population is not qualified for service in the military because they have at least one type of legal disqualifier. Five percent are under judicial restraint, one percent has been convicted of five or more misdemeanors and one percent has been convicted of more than one felony.

- Seventeen percent of youth are ineligible for the military because of drug or alcohol use. When asked if they would fail a drug test "if taken today", 12% said they would. Seven percent of youth admitted to being dependent on drugs or alcohol at some point in their life.

- Eight percent of youth are disqualified for military service because they are single parents. Less than one percent is married with more than two children, also a disqualifier.

- Forty-five percent of youth are ineligible for military service because of a physical or medical condition. One quarter (26%) have been diagnosed by a medical doctor with asthma, attention deficit or other mental disorder, irregular blood pressure or diabetes. The Services also have weight standards for joining the military which would disqualify 21% of the youth population. Fifteen percent of youth have a medical condition that prevents them from running two miles, doing push-ups, pull-ups, sit-ups and/or swimming.

There are additional restrictions that the military places on enlistments that could not be measured in the survey. Military applicants must score at or above the 10th percentile on the Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT). The military also limits the number of recruits who score below the 50th percentile on the AFQT and the number of recruits who do not have a high school diploma. Additionally, while some Services accept applicants up to age 35, over three quarters of active-duty DoD recruits are age 21 and below.

While the youth population is projected to grow over the next decade, a disproportionate amount of this growth will occur among non-U.S. citizens. On the positive side, drug and alcohol abuse among youth appears to be leveling off and the number of high school graduates is expected to increase over the next decade. However, national trends of youth obesity, asthma and diabetes are rising while youth exercise trends are declining. Additionally, a plan to re-calibrate the enlistment examination (AFQT) is expected to slightly narrow the field of eligible youth.

Propensity and Eligibility.
There is no difference in military eligibility rates between propensed youth and those youth who are not propensed. This means that over half of the propensed youth population is ineligible for military service.

Of the 23.9 million American youth aged 16-21, 10.1 million youth are eligible for military service. Of those, 15%, or 1.6 million youth, are also propensed. With the fiscal year 2003 non-prior service goal for all active DoD Services being 178,408 and the non-prior service Reserve goal being 69,941 this poll suggests that recruiting is much more difficult than the overall propensity numbers alone may had previously indicated.

Department of Defense
June 2003 Youth Poll 5

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SECTION I. INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

The Department of Defense June 2003 Youth Poll marks the fifth wave of the DoD Youth Polls since they replaced the annual Youth Attitudinal Tracking Study (YATS) in March 2001. The primary function of the Youth Polls is to regularly track propensity – the likelihood that youth will join the military. Each Youth Poll measures propensity, familiarity of the military, perceived knowledge of the military, economic indicators and current events. Each Youth Poll also focuses on a topic that provides the DoD with a better understanding of one of three general areas that have been identified as directly impacting recruiting:

1. The factors that affect propensity, including youth's attitudes and their views on the military; the influence parents, other adults, current events, and societal norms have on their decisions; and youth's confidence in successfully performing military related duties.
2. Youth's ability to meet the physical, medical, moral and other enlistment standards set by the U.S. military.
3. The source of youth's military impressions and the influence that these sources have on propensity and consideration of the military as an option for the future.

The June 2003 Youth Poll focuses on the second topic of interest detailed above, the youth population's eligibility for military service. Ultimately, this information can be leveraged to enhance the quantity and quality of the supply of propensed American youth, thereby helping the Services meet their recruiting missions.

PURPOSE

In addition to measuring propensity, the purpose of June 2003 Youth Poll was to focus on the qualifications of youth and their ability to meet military enlistment standards. This report documents the results of this poll by answering four primary research questions:

1. **What is the propensity of American youth to enlist in the military?**

2. **What are youth's attitudes toward the military (i.e., favorability, knowledge, opinion of relevant current events)?**

3. **What proportion of American youth meet the physical, medical, moral and other enlistment standards set by the U.S. military?**

4. **What proportion of *propensed* youth meet the physical, medical, moral and other enlistment standards set by the U.S. military?**

ORGANIZATION OF THIS REPORT

This report is divided into five sections:

Section I. *Introduction* - provides background on the purpose and objectives of the June 2003 Youth Poll, the methodology and research approach, and the demographic characteristics of the survey respondents.

Section II. *Future Plans and Propensity* - answers the first research question regarding the likelihood of youth to join the military. To investigate propensity, questions related to the future plans of youth are asked in addition to questions concerning the likelihood to join specific military branches. Propensity results are also provided for key demographic segments.

Section III. *Youth Attitudes toward the Military* - answers the second research question concerning youth's attitudes toward the military and current events. In addition to favorability and knowledge of the military, youth were asked for their opinions on the war in Iraq.

Section IV. *Youth Qualifications* - answers the third research question concerning the proportion of American youth able to meet military enlistment standards.

Section V. *Qualifications of the Propensed Population* - answers the fourth research question by focusing on propensed youth and their ability to meet military enlistment standards and how they compare to non-propensed youth.

Section VI. *Summary and Conclusions* - summarizes the results of the June 2003 Youth Poll and provides conclusions and recommendations for tactical and strategic planning.

METHODOLOGY

The June 2003 Youth Poll used random digit dialing administered via Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) between April 24, 2003 and June 8, 2003 to collect data. American households were screened for the target audience: youth between the ages of 16 and 21 who have never served in the U.S. Armed Services and are not enrolled in a postsecondary reserve officer's training corps program. In the case that more than one person in the household met these criteria the respondent with the most recent birthday prior to the interview date was selected.

The sample size of the June 2003 Youth Poll was 3,077 completed interviews. In this design, telephone households were sampled with simple random sampling within one of two strata at the first stage. In the second stage, one eligible person was randomly sampled within the household. The two strata used in this design were defined as a "Low Density" stratum, which had a concentration of less than 30% Blacks in the calling prefix, and a "High Density" stratum, with a concentration of more than 30% Blacks.

On average the survey took 20 minutes to complete. The data were weighted by gender, age, race/ethnicity, and education to reflect the general population based on July 2003 Current Population Survey (CPS) data from the U.S. Census. Soft quotas were placed on eight geographic regions (based on 2000 U.S. Census).

To find confidence intervals and test hypotheses from the June 2003 Youth Poll, the variance for the estimated statistics that take into account the properties of the study design must be calculated. In the preparation of this report, this was done using the replication method referred to as "Jackknife".

Appendix A contains a detailed technical assessment and description of the research methodology and variance estimation procedures.

APPROACH

Accurate information about youth's attitudes and enlistment intentions are necessary to help direct the Department of Defense's efforts to maintain a quality all-volunteer military force. Propensity is one metric and has been found to be very predictive of actual enlistment behavior.

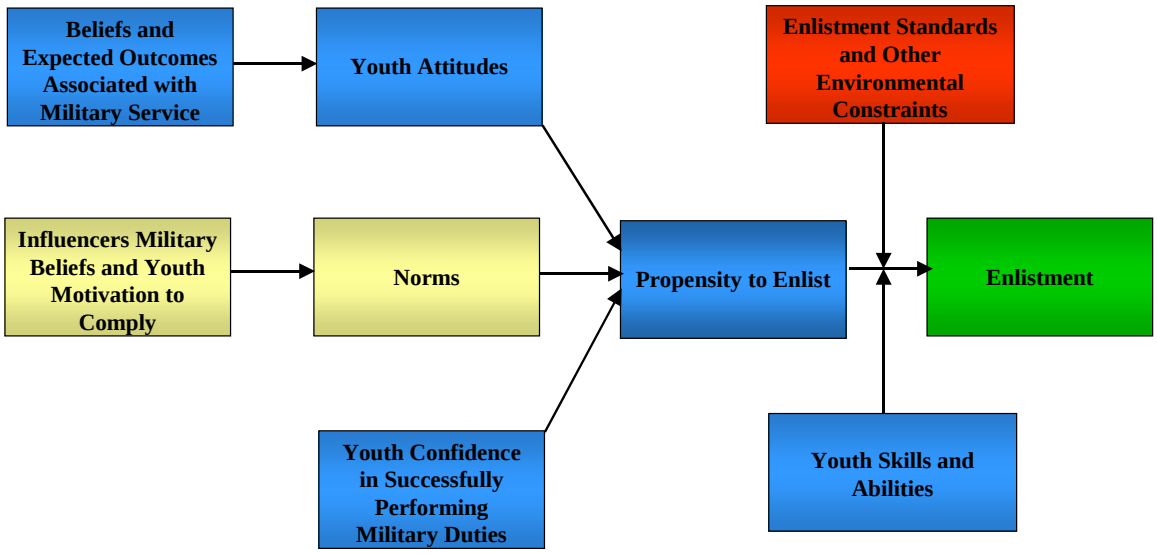
The goal of the June 2003 Youth Poll is to provide information regarding the factors that affect the supply of youth enlisting in the military. The figure on the next page displays a conceptual model of behavior known as the Theory of Reasoned Action[1]. According to this model, one's performance or nonperformance of a behavior, in this case military enlistment, is primarily determined by the strength of one's intention to perform or not perform a given behavior. The main drivers of the intention can be split into two primary areas:

I. **Youth Attitudes**. Attitudes are a function of one's beliefs that performing a given behavior will lead to certain outcomes and the perceived importance of those outcomes. Generally speaking, the more one believes that performing the behavior will lead to positive outcomes that are valued or will prevent negative outcomes; the more favorable will be one's attitude toward performing the behavior.

II. **Subjective Norms**. Subjective norms are viewed as a function of normative beliefs and motivations to comply with what referent others want of you. More simply, the more one believes that specific individuals or groups think that one should perform the behavior and the more one is motivated to comply with those people, the stronger will be the perceived pressure to perform that behavior.

On the right side of the model, an additional important determinant of military enlistment behavior is displayed that has largely been ignored in past Youth Polls. That is the ability of youth to meet the enlistment standards set by the U.S. Military. While force structure dictates the quantity of people needed to fill military units, the qualifications of those people in terms of the knowledge, aptitude, skill, physical fitness, medical health, and motivation determine the effectivenesss of those units. Since enlistment standards and the supply of qualified youth can change over time, present or future recruiting shortfalls can arise from higher enlistment standards or from declining qualifications in the youth population as easily as it can from declining interest in military service.

[1] National Research Council (2003) *Attitudes, Aptitudes, and Aspirations of American Youth: Implications for Military Recruitment.* Committee on the Youth Population and Military Recruitment. Paul Sackett and Anne Mavor, editors. Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.



Looking at the above model, it can be seen that military enlistment, like any other behavior, is most likely to occur if one has a strong intention to perform that behavior, if one has the necessary skills and abilities (i.e., meets military enlistment standards), and if there are no environmental constraints preventing the behavior.

Use of a model-based approach such as this provides several advantages. Principal among these is the implication that the findings have for action and strategic direction. For example, very different interventions would be necessary if one has formed an intention but is unable to act, than if one has little or no intention to perform the behavior or if one is not engaging because of social pressure being exerted on them from the important people in their life. A model-based approach that integrates these multiple components aids decision making by providing a more comprehensive and integrated platform of information from which to make decisions.

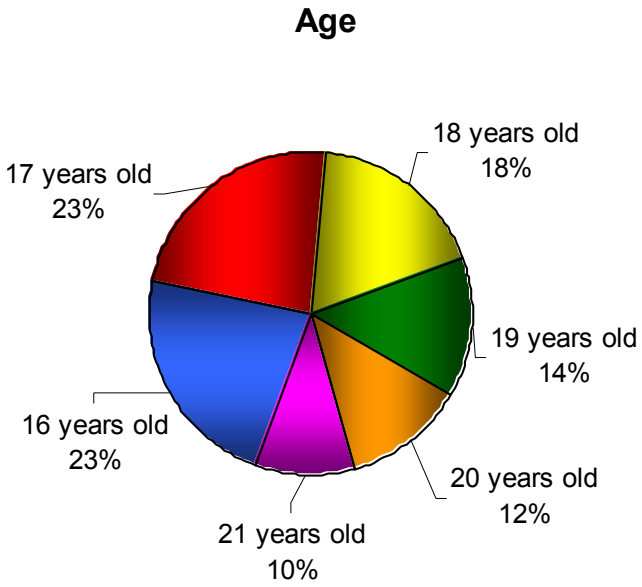
In line with this model, the June 2003 Youth Poll focused primarily on youth's propensity to enlist and their:

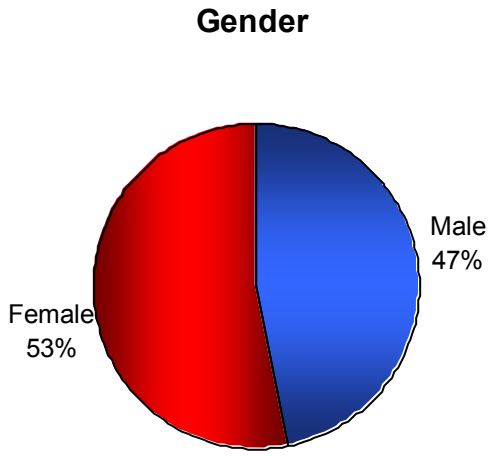
- Future plans
- Favorability toward the military
- Knowledge of the military
- Attitudes towards the war in Iraq and economic indicators
- Educational, aptitude, physical, medical, and moral qualifications

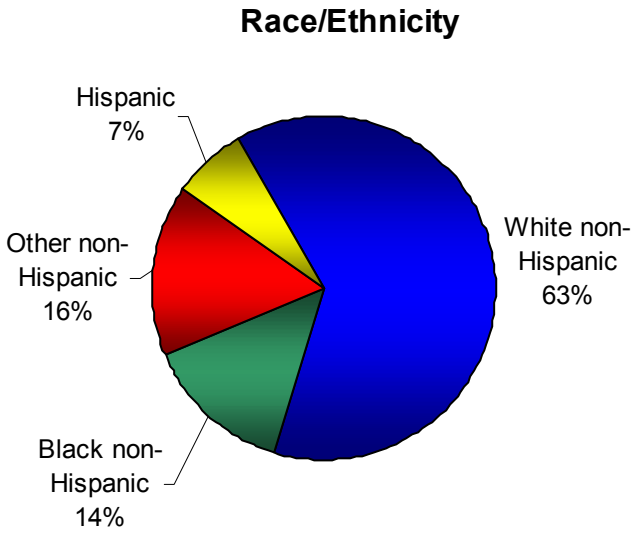
RESPONDENT PROFILE

This survey was conducted via telephone using random digit dialing. To understand the results of this study, it is useful to understand some of the general characteristics of the respondents. The following charts display the demographic characteristics of the 3,077 survey respondents:

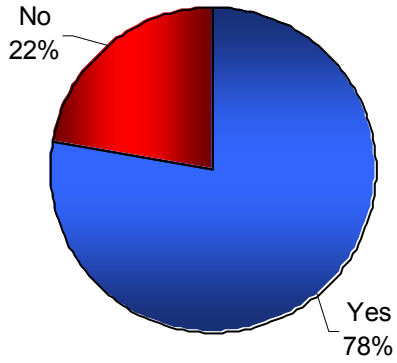
- Age
- Gender
- Race
- Hispanic/Latino Descent
- Education/School
- Employment Status
- Marital Status
- Family Information



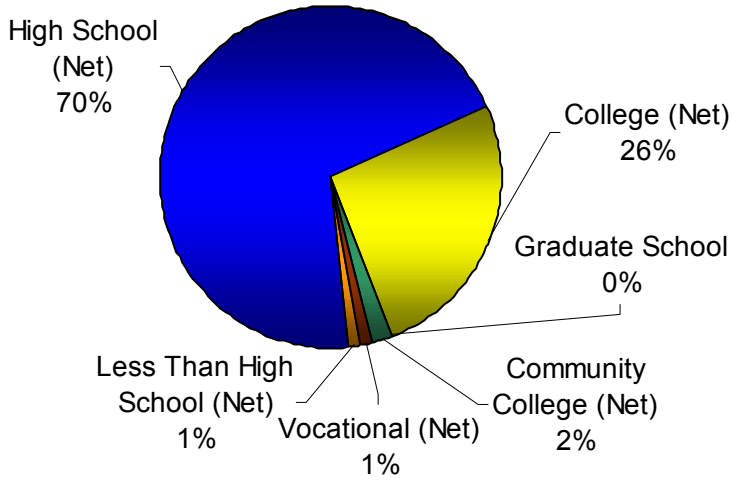




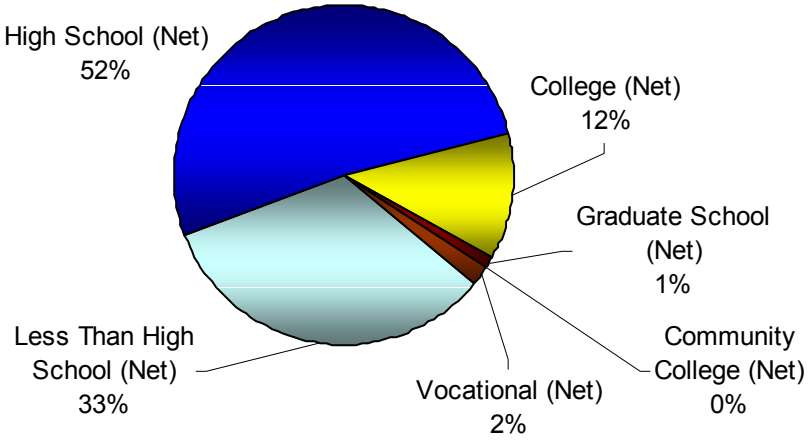
Are you currently enrolled in school or a training program?



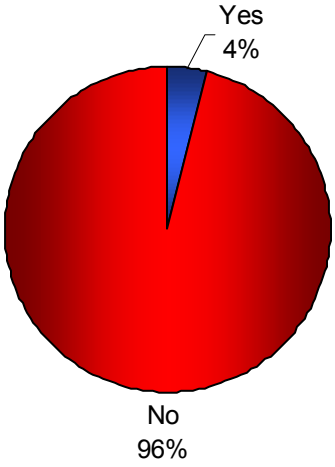
Current Education Levels
(Those Currently Enrolled in School)



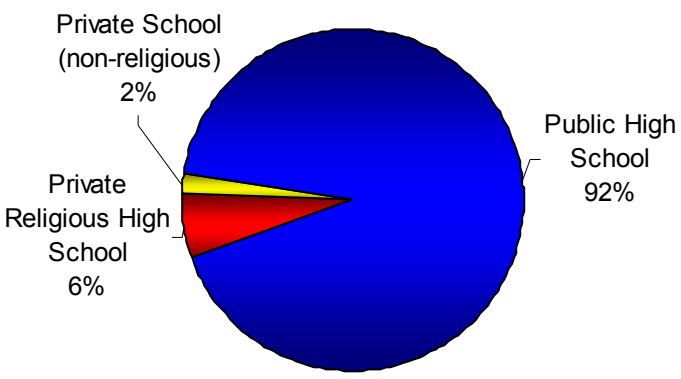
Completed Education Levels
(Those Not Currently Enrolled in School)



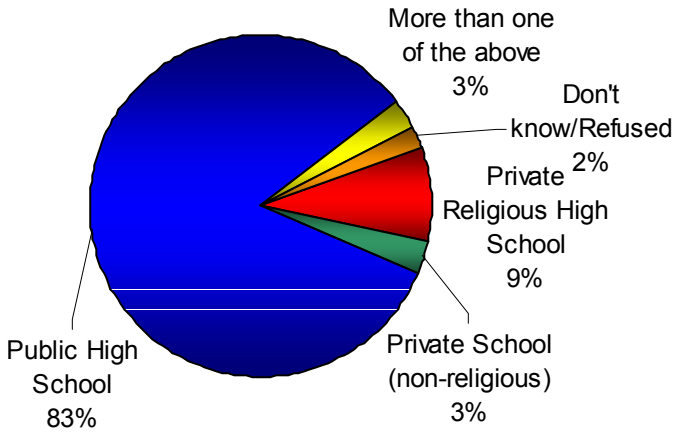
Are you being home schooled



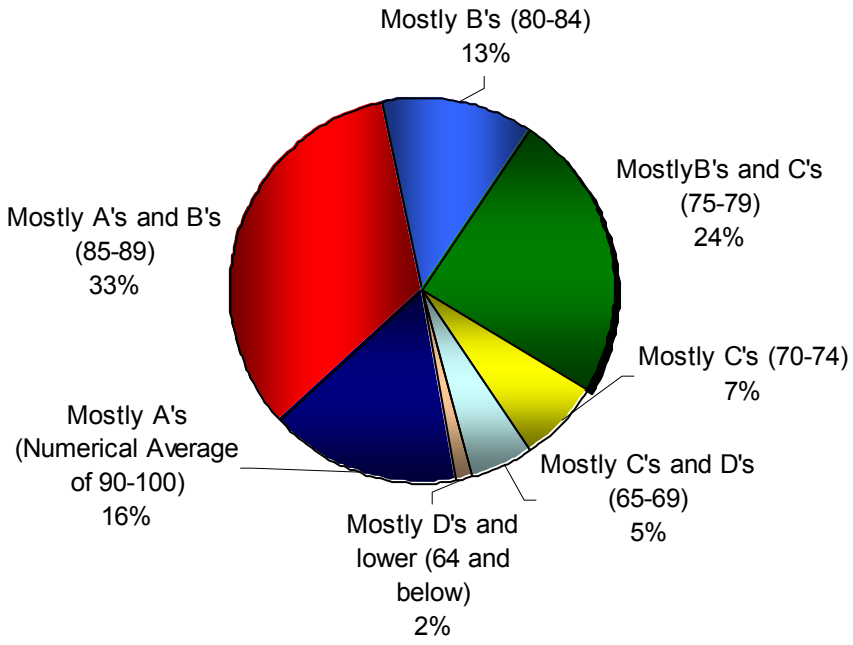
Do you go to a private of public school?
(Those Currently Enrolled in High School & Not Home Schooled)



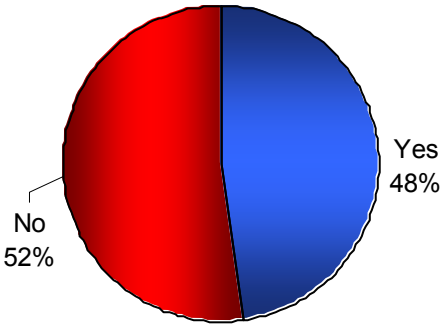
Did you go to a private or public school?
(Those Not Currently Enrolled in School)



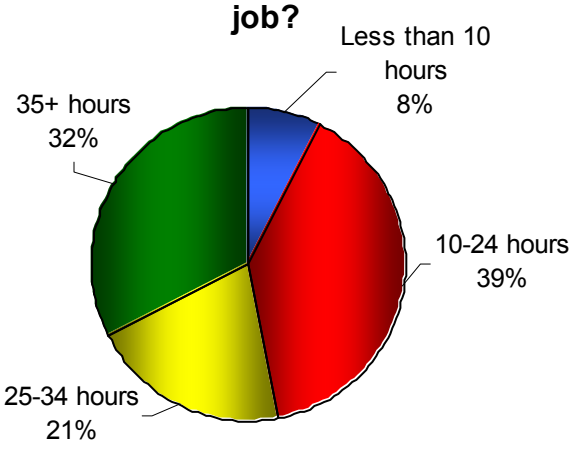
What grades do you or did you usually get in high school?



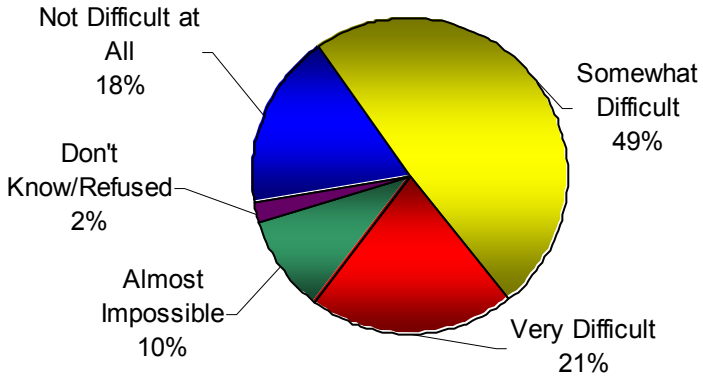
Are you currently employed either full or part time?



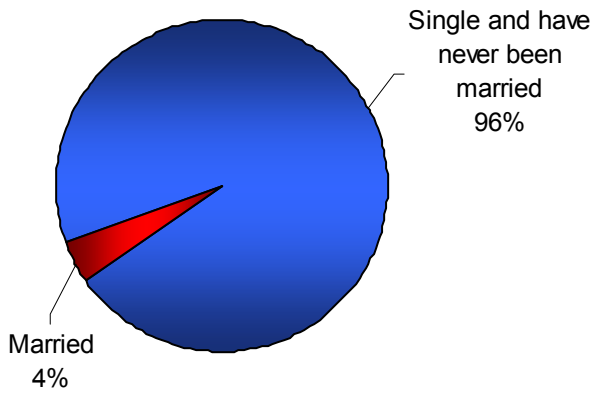
How many hours per week do you work at your job?



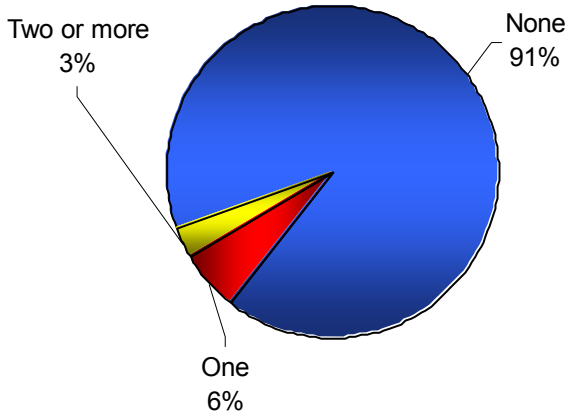
How difficult is it for someone your age to get a full time job?



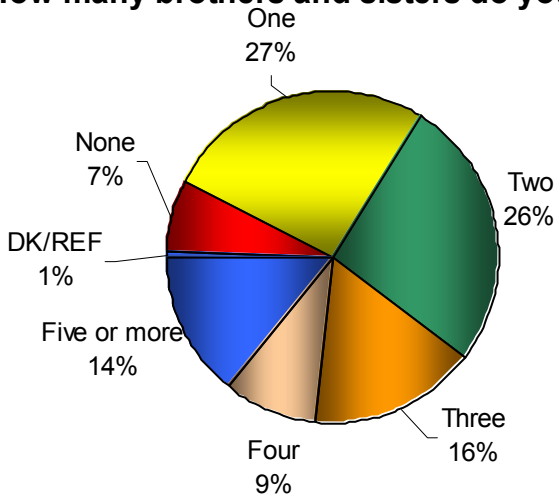
What is your marriage status?



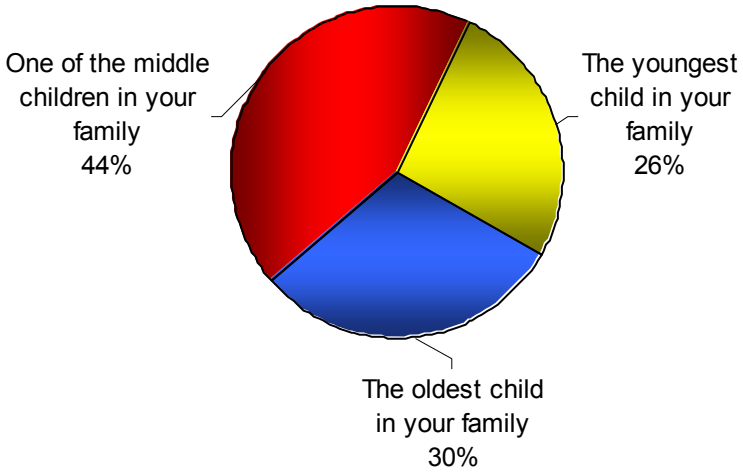
How many children do you have?



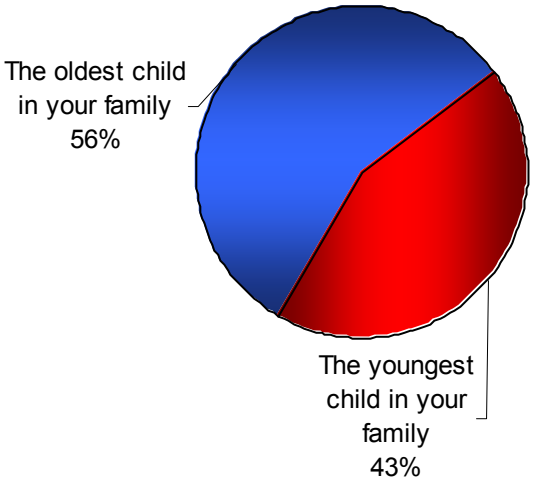
How many brothers and sisters do you have?



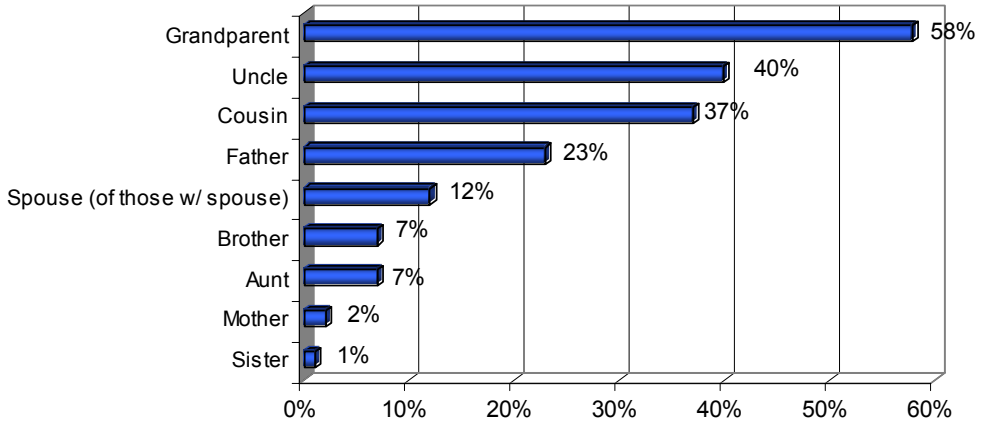
[More than one sibling] Are you...?



[One sibling] Are you...?



Has your [family member] ever served in the U.S. military?



SECTION II. FUTURE PLANS AND PROPENSITY

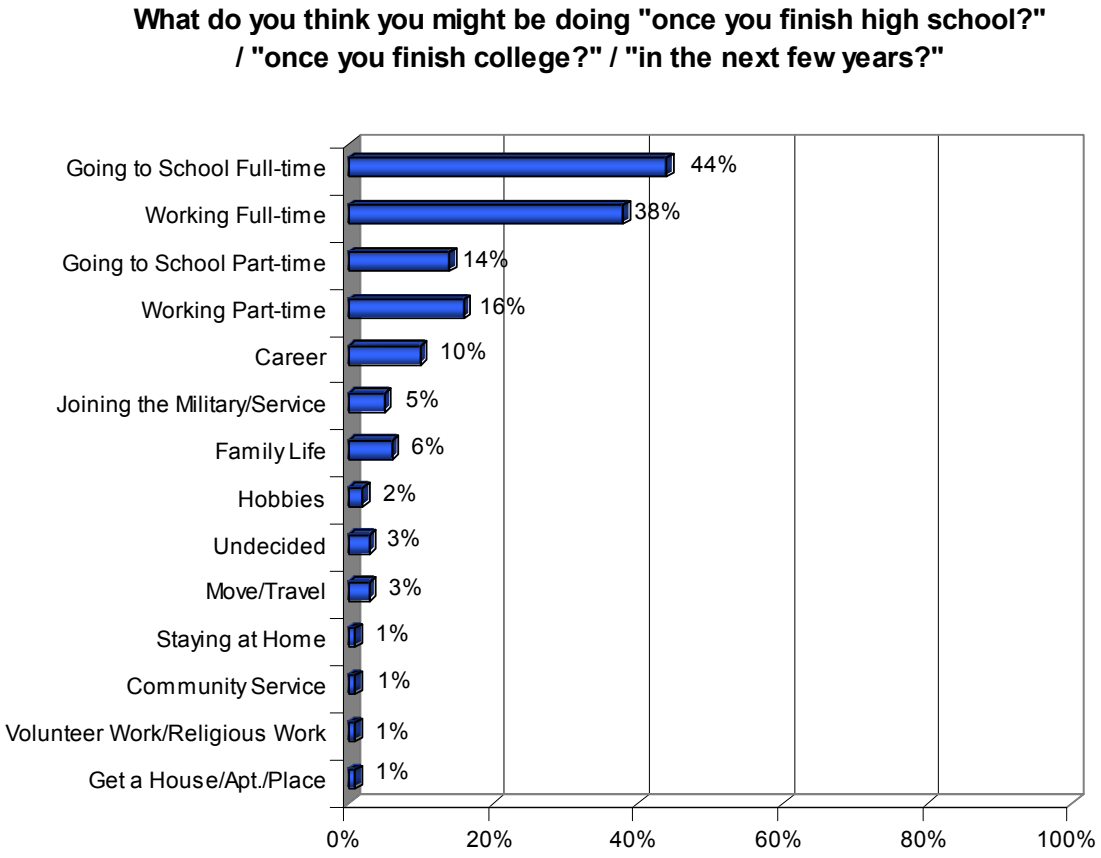
One of the primary goals of the June 2003 Youth Poll is to answer the question, "*What is the propensity of American youth to enlist in the military?*" The same questions that have been used historically in the Youth Attitude Tracking Study (YATS) to measure propensity continue to be used in the Youth Polls, as past studies have shown that these measures are predictive of military enlistment.[2,3]

The June 2003 Youth Poll measured propensity among youth between the ages of 16 and 21. Youth were asked several types of questions to measure their propensity levels. First, youth were asked (unaided) to mention any options that they would consider after finishing high school, after finishing college, or within the next few years. Historically, this has been shown to be the single best predictor of actual enlistment behavior. Second, youth were directly asked how likely they were to join the military. This is referred to as *general military propensity*. Third, youth were asked a series of questions regarding their likelihood to join each of the Services. In keeping with past work done in YATS, the Service-specific questions were then combined to create an overall estimate of youth's composite propensity. The combination of active-duty Service propensities is referred to as *active composite propensity* while the combination of Reserve and Guard Component propensities is referred to as *reserve composite propensity*.

[2]Stone, Turner & Wiggins (1993). *Population Propensity Measurement Model: Final Analysis Report*. Defense Manpower Data Center.
[3] Warner, Simon and Payne (2002). *Propensity, Application and Enlistment: Evidence from the Youth Attitude Tracking Study.* Defense Human Resources Activity.

FUTURE PLANS

Education continues to be the primary focus of American youth, with responses similar to the last Youth Poll conducted in November 2002. Nearly half (44%; 41% in November 2002[4]) of respondents indicated that they would be going to school full-time once they finished high school, finished college, or in the next few years. Thirty-eight percent indicated that they would be working full-time (39% in November 2002). Five percent (5% in November 2002) indicated that they planned on joining the military.

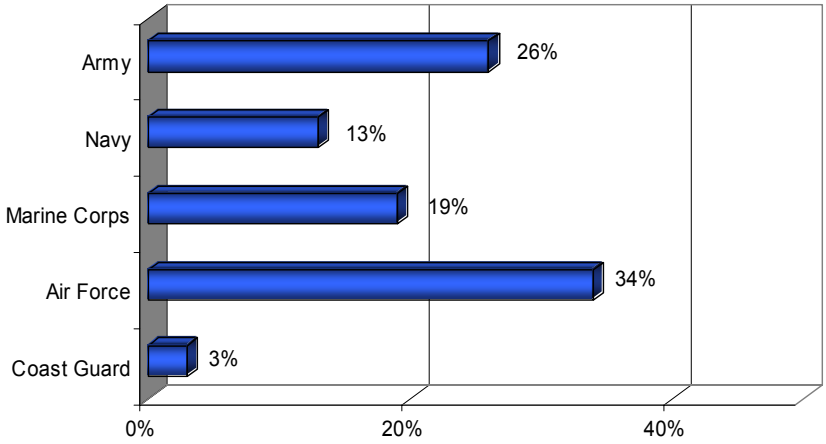


[4] October 2002 numbers will be provided throughout this report. However, the October poll consisted of 15-21 year olds whereas the April 2003 poll consisted of only 16-21 year olds. The numbers provided from the October poll represent the responses from only the 16-21 year olds in that poll for more direct comparability. Users of past poll data and reports should be aware of this and note that statistics reported in this report may not directly match results as published in the October 2002 Youth Poll report or briefing.

Branch of Service/Type of Service

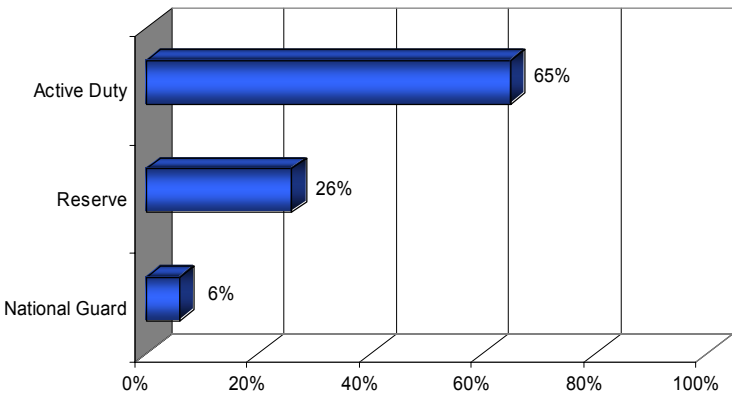
Of the five percent who indicated that they planned on joining the military, 34% reported that the Air Force was the branch they planned on joining (26% in November 2002). Twenty-six percent indicated they planned on joining the Army (26% in November 2002), 19% the Marine Corps (32% in November 2002), and 13% the Navy (15% in November 2002).

You said you might be joining the military.
Which branch of the service would that be?

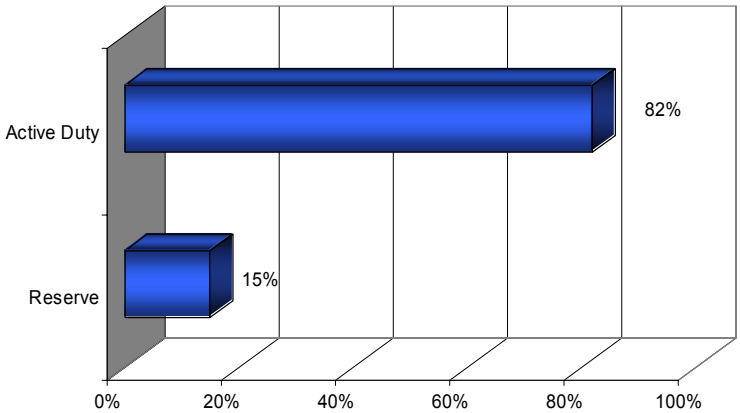


Of the youth that planned on joining the Army or Air Force, 65% were considering active-duty (75% in November 2002). Twenty six percent were considering the Reserves (10% in November 2002) and 6% the National Guard (10% in November 2002). Of the youth that were planning on joining the Coast Guard, Marines or the Navy, 82% were considering active-duty (79% in November 2002) and 15% were considering the Reserves (18% in November 2002).

Which type of service would that be
(Army/Air Force)?

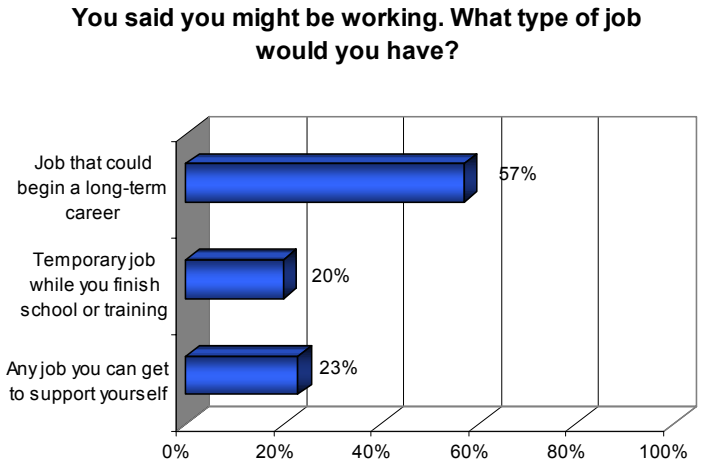


Which type of service would that be
(Coast Guard/Marine Corps/Navy)?



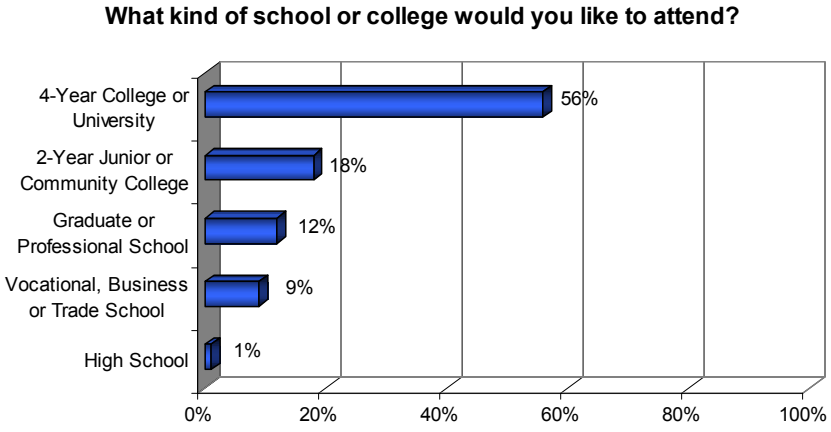
Type of Job

While a high proportion of youth reported that they planned to be working in the future, for many, this was either temporary or secondary to other plans. Of the youth that were considering working full-time or part-time, 57% planned to be working at a job that could begin a long-term career (62% in November 2002). Twenty percent indicated that they would be seeking a temporary job while they finished school or training (20% in November 2002) and 23% (18% in November 2002) would be seeking any job to support themselves.



Type of School/College

Of the 58% who reported they were planning to attend school (full-time or part-time), 56% indicated that they would like to attend a 4-year college or a university (58% in November 2002), while 18% stated that they would like to attend a two-year junior or community college (16% in November 2002).

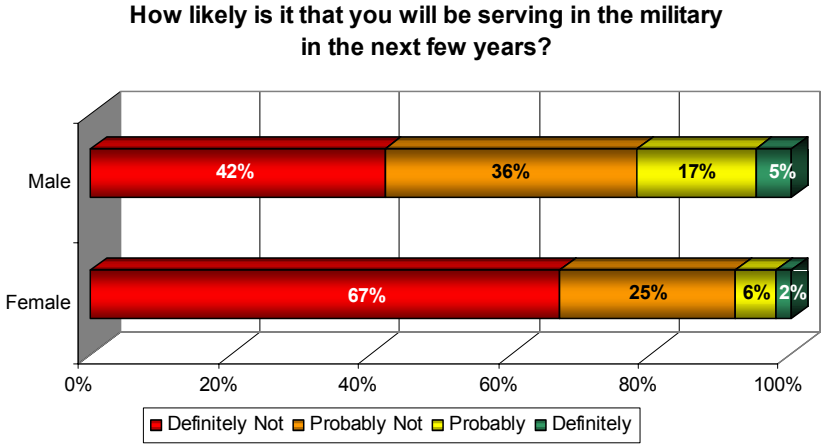


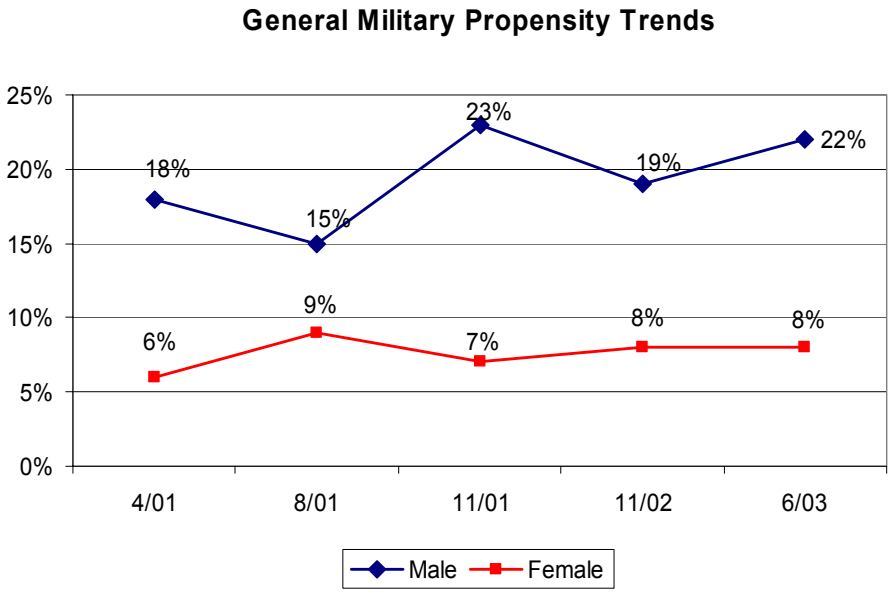
When asked, almost half of youth wanted to achieve a 4-year bachelor's degree (40%; 38% in November 2002). Thirty-four percent indicated that at least some graduate school was their goal (36% in November 2002).

PROPENSITY

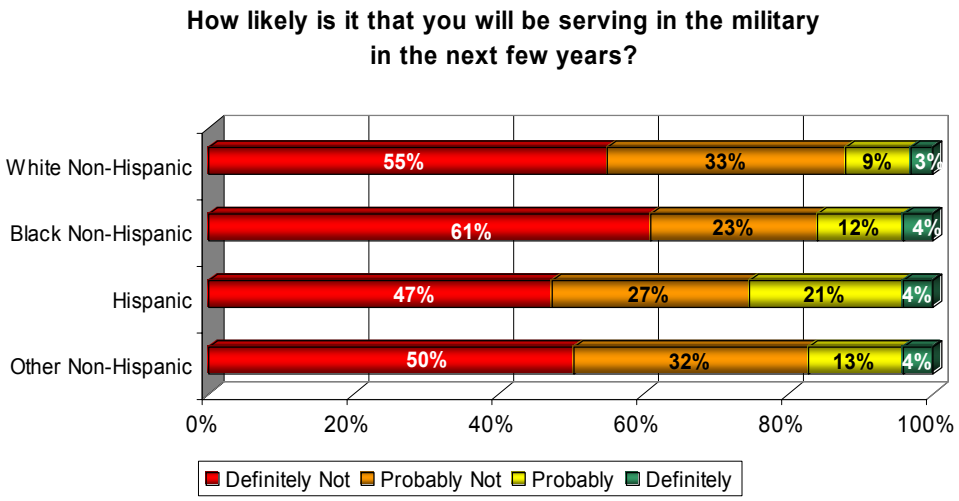
Propensity – General Military

Before they were asked the Service-specific propensity questions, youth were asked how likely it was that they would be serving in the military in the next few years. Twenty-two percent (5% Definitely, 17% Probably) of males said it was likely they would serve, significantly higher than the 19% in November 2002. Females were less propensed, with only eight percent saying they were likely to serve (2% Definitely, 6% Probably), unchanged from November 2002.

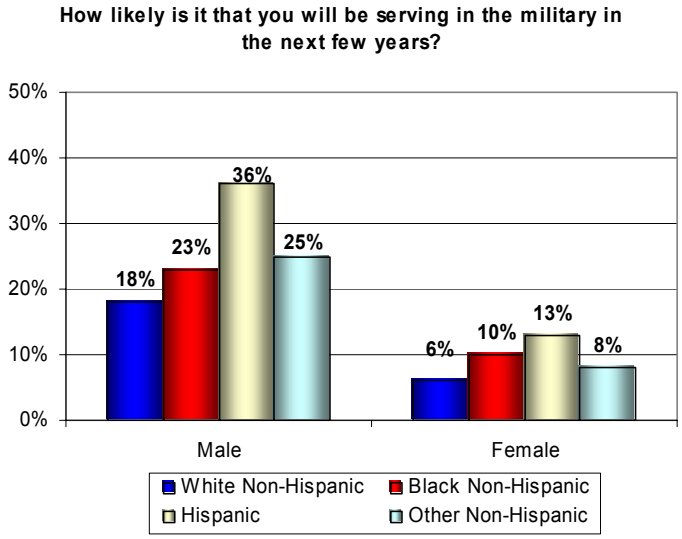




Hispanic youth had the highest level of general military propensity, with 25% responding that they would either probably or definitely be serving in the military in the next few years. Only one statistical difference existed for general military propensity across the racial/ethnic groups. Hispanics were significantly more likely to be propensed toward the military than Whites (12%), Blacks (16%), and Others (17%).



A similar trend existed for general military propensity across the racial/ethnic groups when examined independently by males and females. For males, Hispanics were significantly more likely to be propensed toward the military than were the other racial/ethnic subgroups. For females, although Hispanics again had the highest general military propensity, the only significant difference was between Hispanics and Whites.

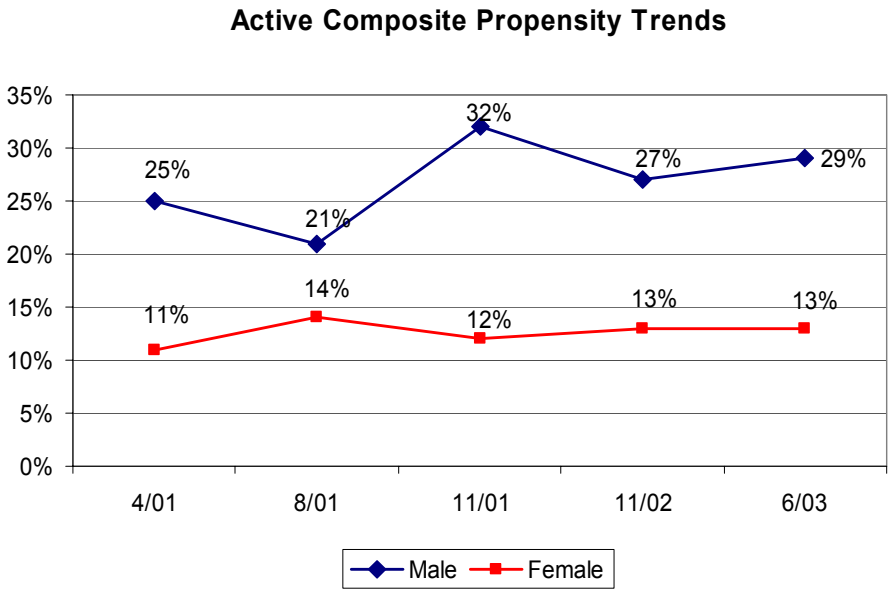


Propensity – Active Composite and Service-Specific

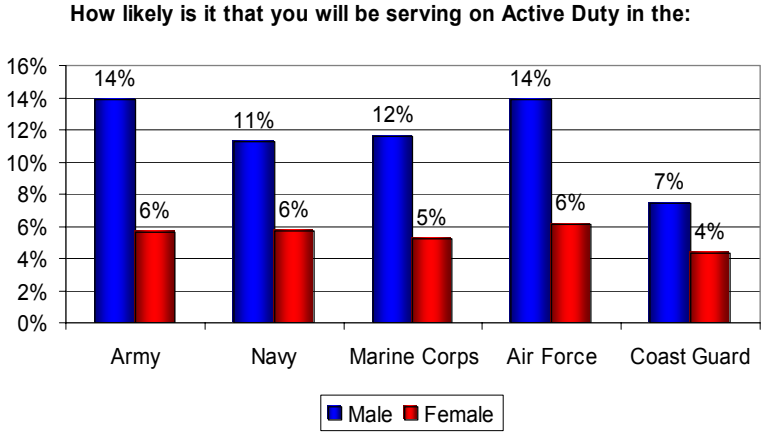
Following this question, youth were asked, *"How likely is it that you will be serving on active-duty in the (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard)?"* Youth who responded that they would "definitely" or "probably" serve in a particular Service were categorized as propensed for that Service.

Active composite propensity was calculated from this set of questions and represents the proportion of youth who were propensed for at least one of the four active-duty DoD Services: Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force.

The active composite propensity of males age 16 to 21 was 29% (27% in November 2002). The active composite propensity for females was 13%, the same as November 2002.



Youth's propensity to serve on active-duty in each of the individual branches has remained stable since last measured in November 2002. Fourteen percent of males reported being likely to serve in the Air Force or Army, 12% of males in the Marine Corps, 11% in the Navy, and seven percent in the Coast Guard. Among females, the range in propensity across Services was not as wide, ranging from four to six percent.



Among females, there were no substantive differences in Service-specific propensity were apparent across the four racial/ethnic groups. However, among males, significant differences existed when examining Service-specific propensity across the four racial/ethnic groups[5].

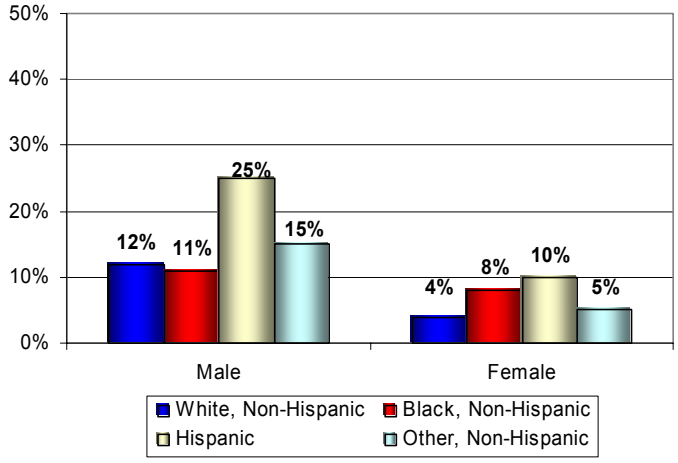
Black males were more propensed for the Air Force (21%), the Marine Corps (16%) and the Navy (16%) than they were for the Army (11%) or the Coast Guard (9%).

Hispanic males were more propensed for the Army (25%), Air Force (23%), the Marine Corps (21%), and the Navy (19%) than they were for the Coast Guard (14%).

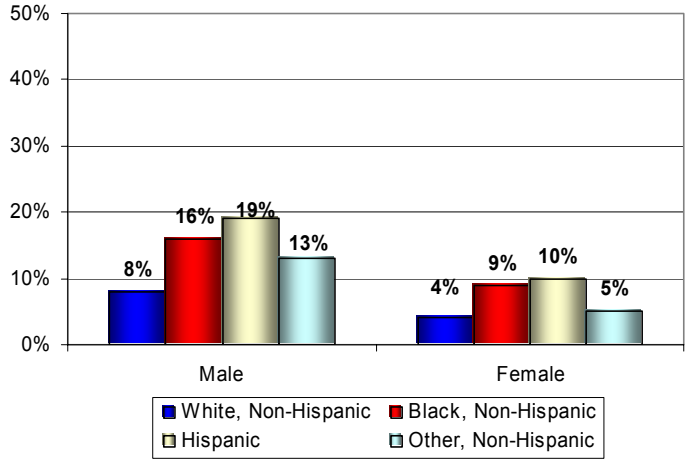
White males were more propensed for the Army (12%) than they were for the Air Force (10%), Marine Corps (9%) or the Navy (8%). White males were less propensed for the Coast Guard (5%) than they were the other four Services.

[5] All significance differences in this report evaluated at the $p < 0.05$ level.

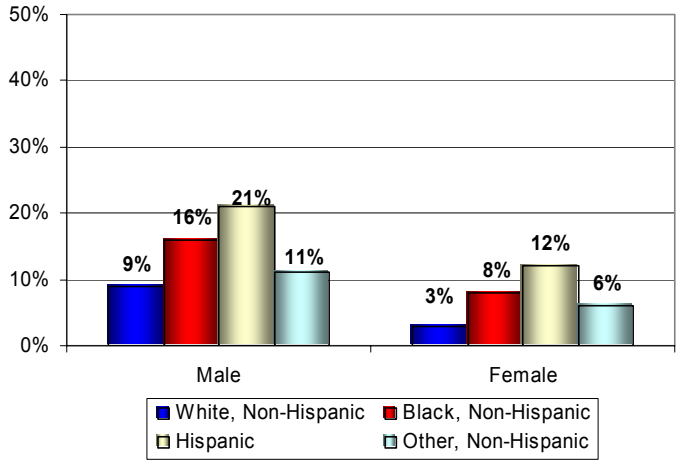
How likely is it that you will be serving on active duty in the Army?



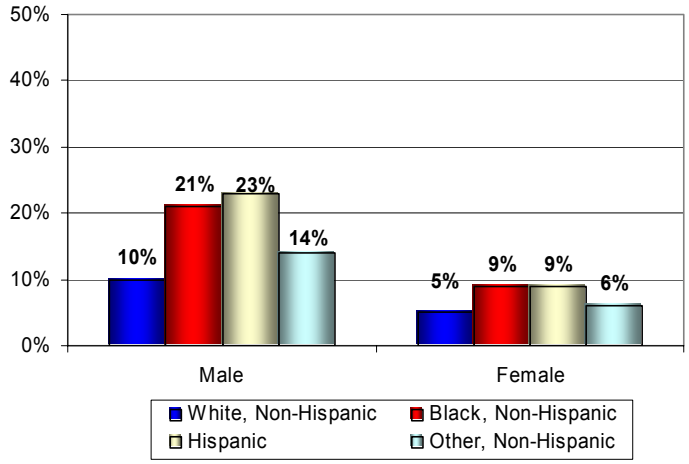
How likely is it that you will be serving on active duty in the Navy?



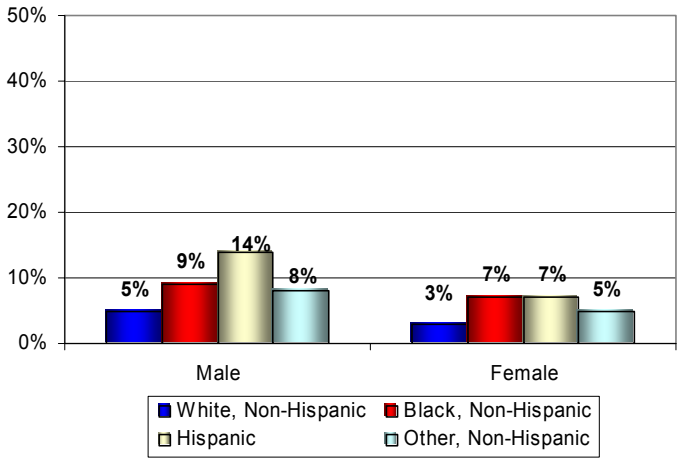
How likely is it that you will be serving on active duty in the Marine Corps?



How likely is it that you will be serving on active duty in the Air Force?



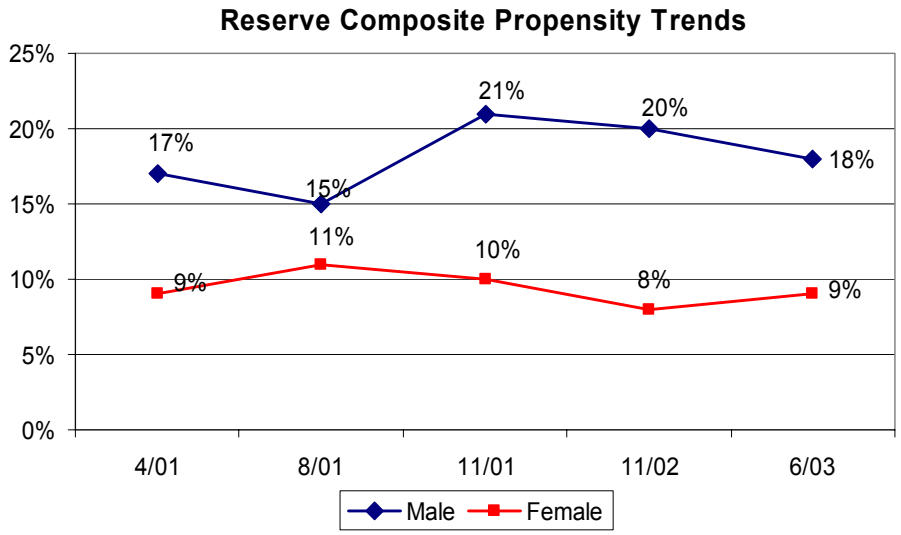
How likely is it that you will be serving on active duty in the Coast Guard?



Propensity – Composite Reserve and Component-Specific

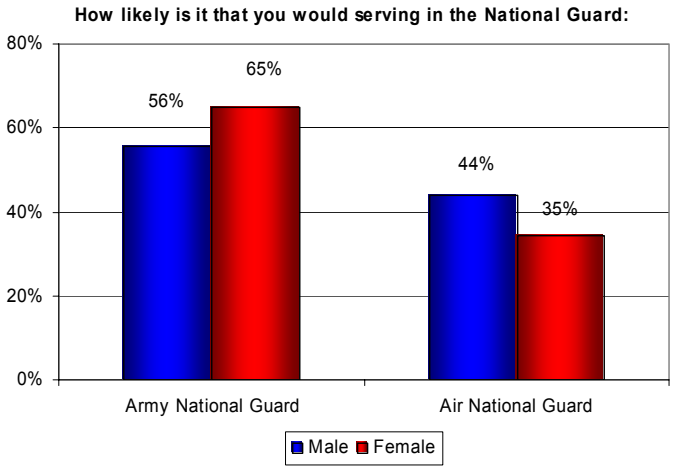
Another important indicator captured in the June 2003 Youth Poll, reserve composite propensity, is calculated using the questions, "How likely is it that you will be serving in the [National Guard (would that be Air National Guard or Army National Guard), or Reserves (would that be Air Force Reserve, Army Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Naval Reserve or Coast Guard Reserve)]?" Youth who responded that they would "definitely" or "probably" serve were categorized as propensed for that Component. Reserve composite propensity is calculated as the proportion of youth who are propensed for at least one of the Reserve Components which include: Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Air Force Reserve, Army Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Naval Reserve.

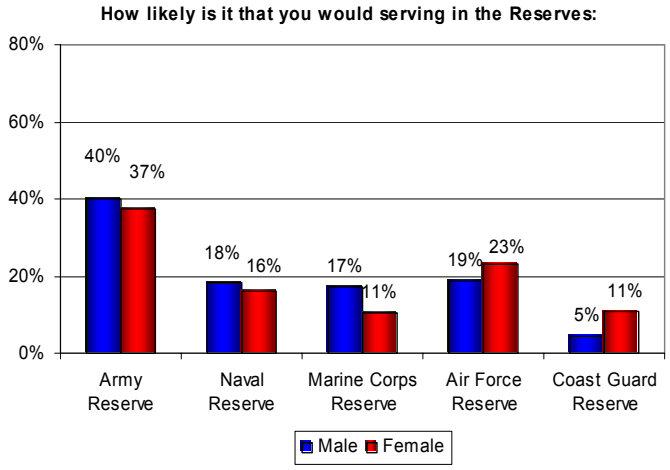
The reserve composite propensity for youth was 14%, the same as in November 2002. Reserve composite propensity for males dropped to 18% (a non-significant decrease from the 20% in November 2002). Female reserve composite propensity was 9% (the same as November 2002 (8%)).



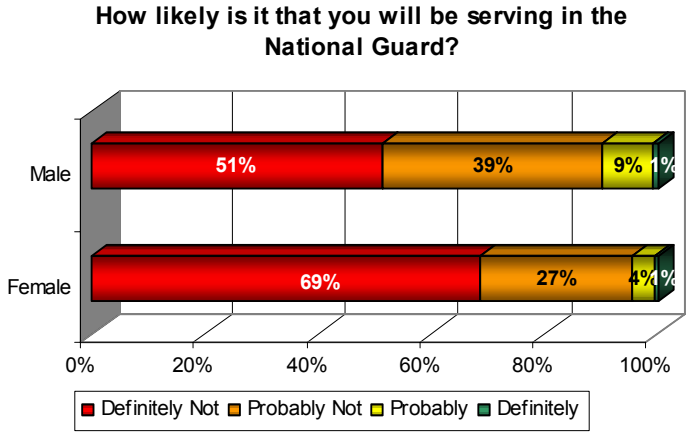
Of the male youth propensed toward the National Guard, 44% were likely to serve in the Air National Guard and 56% in the Army National Guard. Among female youth, 35% were likely to serve in the Air National Guard and 65% the Army National Guard.

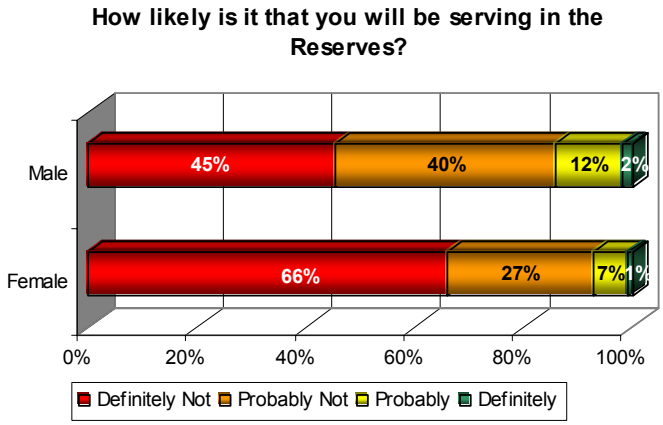
Among male youth propensed toward the Reserves, 40% were propensed for the Army Reserve, followed by Air Force Reserve (19%), the Naval Reserve (18%), the Marine Corps Reserve (17%), and the Coast Guard Reserve (5%). Of female youth propensed toward the Reserves, 37% were propensed for the Army Reserve, 23% the Air Force Reserve, 16% the Naval Reserve, 11% the Marine Corps Reserve, and 11% the Coast Guard Reserve.



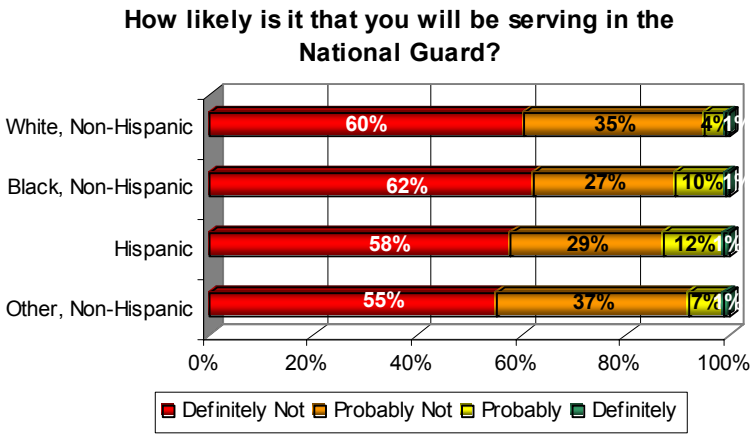


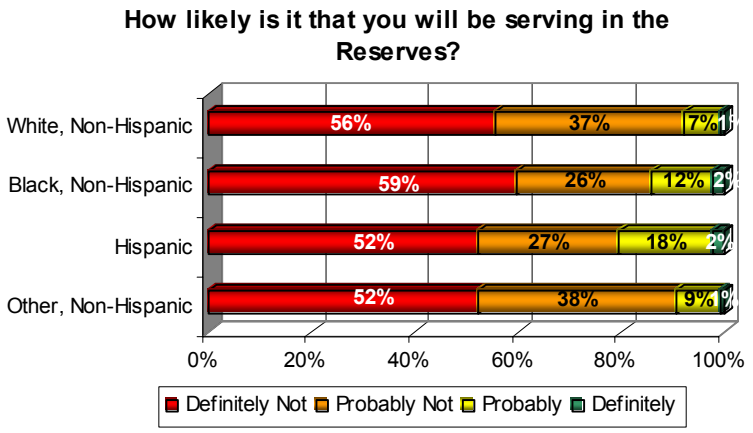
Ten percent of male youth said they were likely to serve in the National Guard (same as November 2002), while 14% of male youth said they were likely to serve in the Reserves (15% in November 2002). Among female youth, five percent said they were likely to serve in the National Guard (four percent in November 2002), while 7% said they were likely to serve in the Reserves (six percent in November 2002).





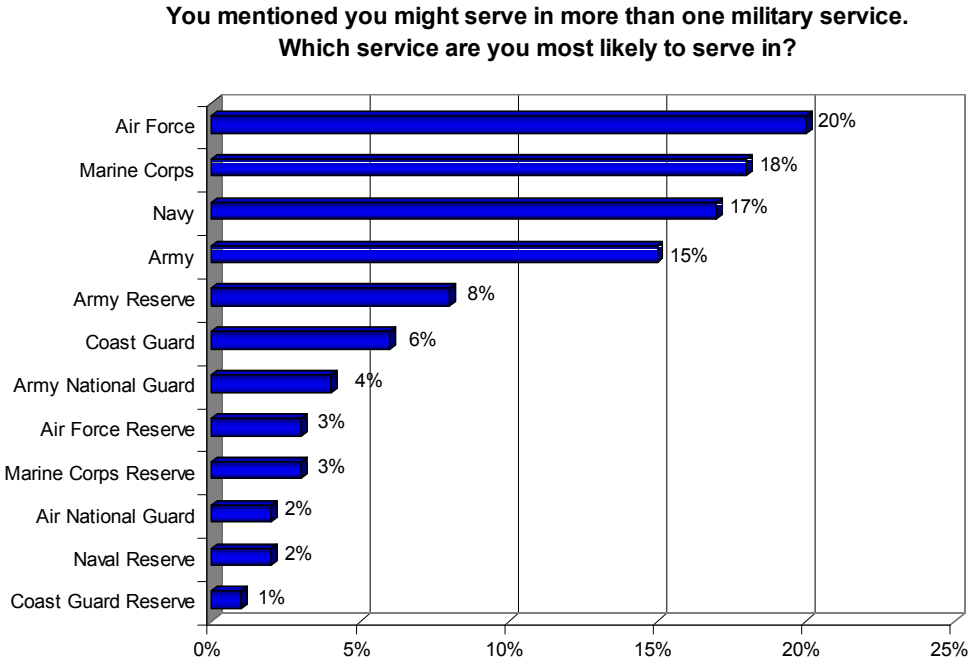
Hispanics had the highest propensity for serving in the National Guard (13% Probably or Definitely) and the Reserves (20% Probably or Definitely). Only five percent of Whites reported being likely to serve in the National Guard while only eight percent of Whites reported being likely to serve in the Reserves.





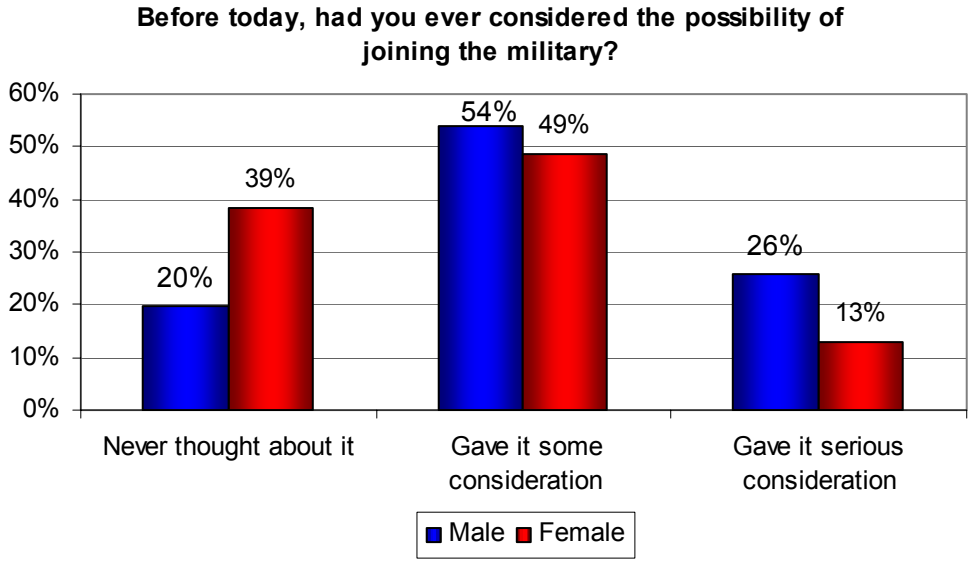
Selected More Than One Service

Of the 534 respondents who reported they were propensed for more than one military Service or Component, 75% reported they would most likely serve in an active-duty Service: 20% selected the Air Force, 18% the Marine Corps, 17% the Navy, and 15% the Army.

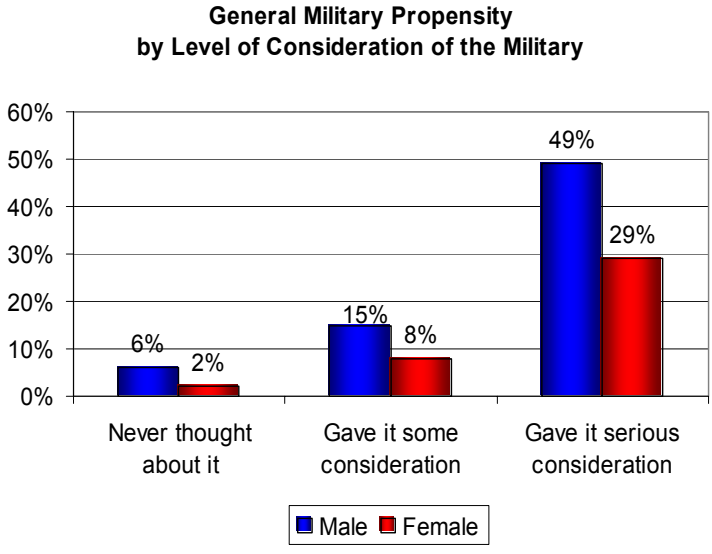


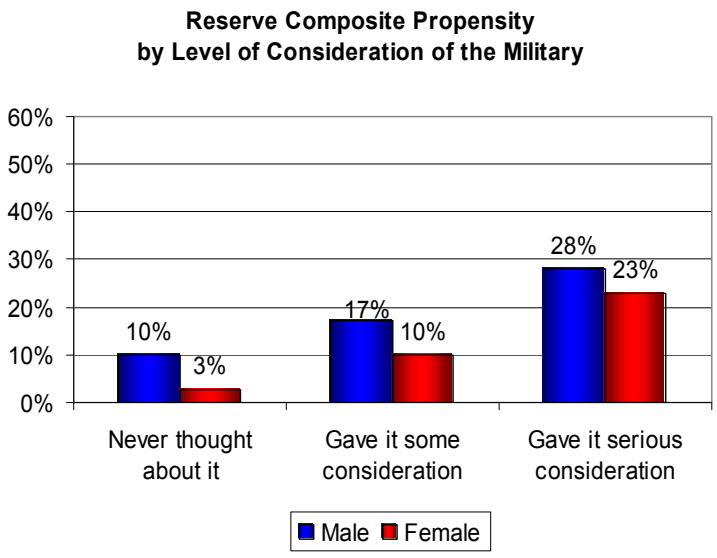
Considered Joining the Military

Part of the challenge in getting youth to enlist in the military is getting them to first consider military service as a viable or realistic post high school option. Before participating in the June 2003 Youth Poll, 54% of males reported they had given the idea of joining the military some consideration, compared to 49% of females who had given it some consideration. Another 26% of males had given the idea of joining the military serious consideration versus 13% of females. However, 20% percent of males and 38% of females had never given any thought to joining the military.

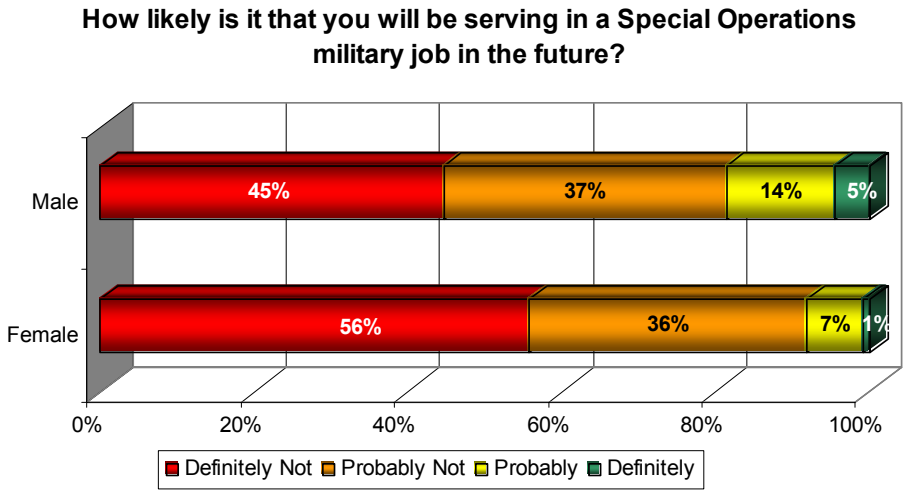


Consistent with the notion that consideration of military service is an important part of the decision to enlist in the military, a strong positive relationship was found between consideration and propensity. As the charts below display, the more youth had considered the military, the higher their likelihood of being propensed. In the case of general military propensity, 49% of males and 29% of females who had given the military serious consideration before responding to the poll were propensed toward military service. Similarly, 28% of males and 23% of females who had given the military serious consideration prior to the poll were propensed toward serving in the National Guard or Reserves.





In this Youth Poll, youth were asked for the first time about their likelihood of serving in a Special Operations military job (such as Ranger, Seal, or Pararescueman). Nineteen percent of males (5% Definitely, 14% Probably) and eight percent of females (1% Definitely, 7% Probably) said they were likely to serve in a Special Operations military job in the future.

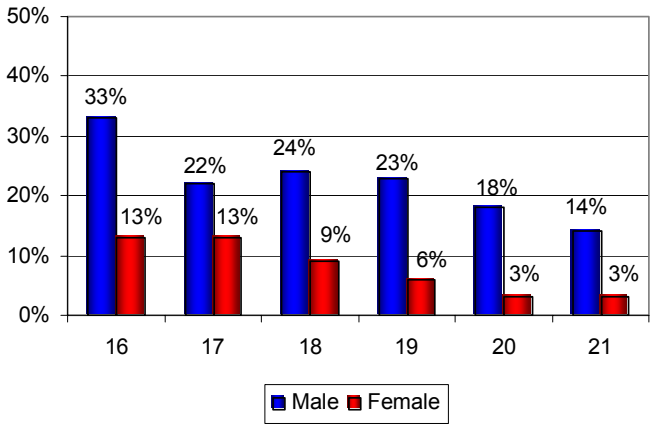


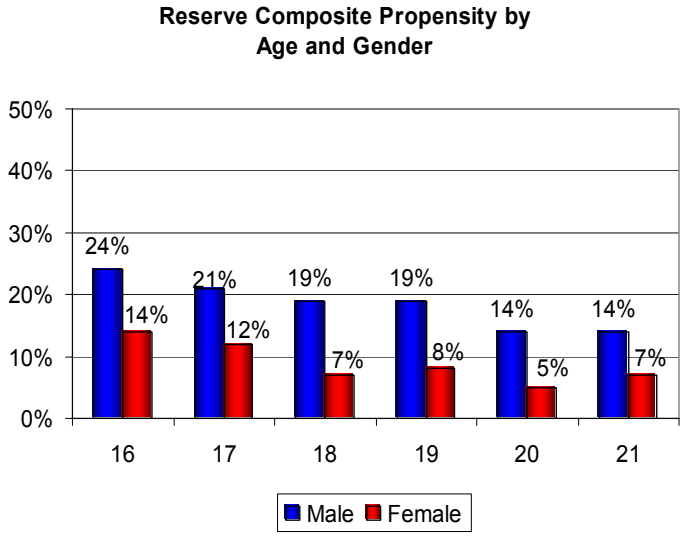
PROPENSITY BY ADDITIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC SEGMENTS

This area examines general military propensity by key demographic variables such as age, geographical region, education, employment, and marital status.

Age

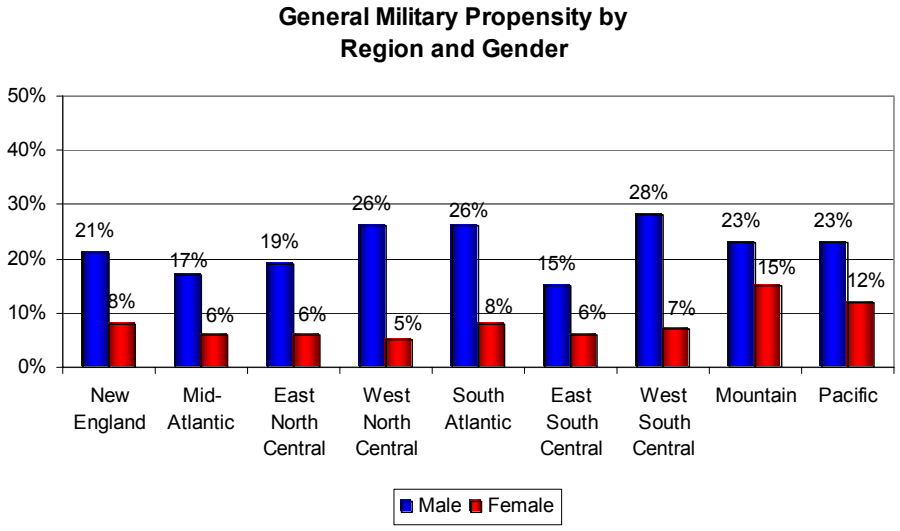
For males and females, general military and reserve composite propensity decrease as youth become older.



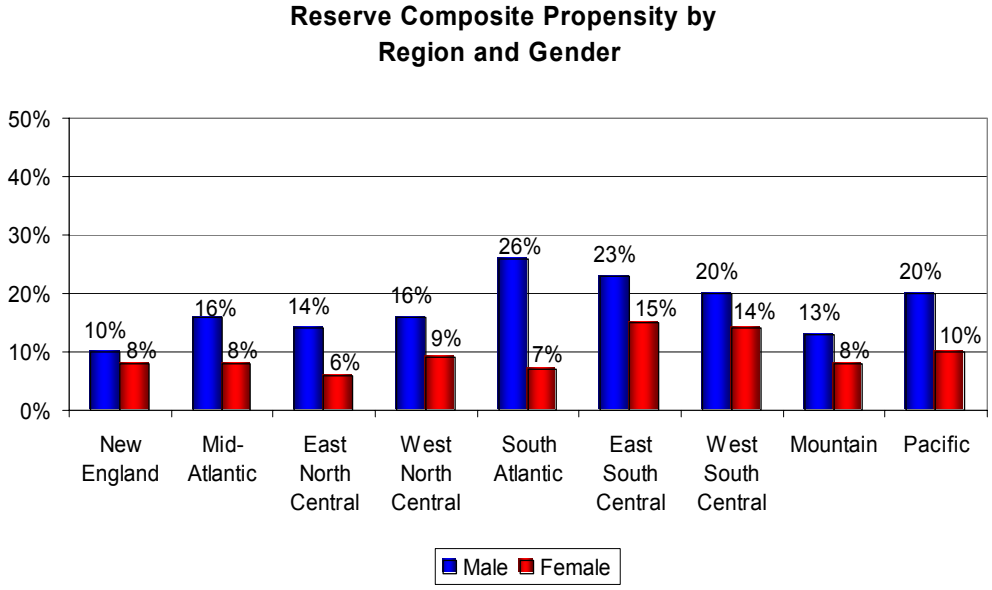


Geography

General military propensity levels were the highest in the West South Central (28%), South Atlantic (26%), and the West North Central (26%) regions. Among female youth, propensity was the highest in the Mountain (15%) and Pacific (12%) regions. It is interesting to note that while male propensity levels are highest in the West South Central, South Atlantic and the West North Atlantic, female propensity (seven, eight and five percent, respectively) is among the lowest in these regions. [6]



Reserve composite propensity levels were the highest for males in the South Atlantic (26%) region. Male reserve composite propensity levels were also high in the East South Central (23%), West South Central (20%), and the Pacific (20%) regions. The East South Central region (15%) and West South Central region (14%) had the highest levels of reserve composite propensity among female youth.



[6] Regions were defined according to Census geo-code definitions. Using an alpha of 0.05, some statistically significant differences exist across geographical regions. However, users should be aware that testing for differences across numerous multiple paired comparisons inflates the alpha resulting in increased risk of Type I errors.

Additional Demographics

In addition to gender, race, age, and geographical region, propensity was also examined by other demographics such as education, employment, and marital status. The tables below display the results in detail.

- Youth with less education, regardless of whether or not they were currently attending school, were more propensed for the military in general. Youth with a high school education or less had the highest propensity (general military and reserve component).
- Youth were more likely to be propensed for the military in general and for the reserves (composite) if they typically received poor grades in high school. [7]
- Youth who were being home schooled were substantially more propensed for the military in general (43%) and the reserves (composite) (33%) than were those not being home schooled (20% and 17%, respectively).
- Youth who were unemployed were more likely to be propensed for the military in general (17%) than those working (14%). In contrast, there were no differences for reserve composite propensity based on employment status.
- There were no differences in general military propensity for youth currently enrolled in public schools (19%), private religious school (18%), or private schools with no religious affiliation (18%). There were also no differences in reserves composite propensity based on type of high school attended. Nineteen percent of those who were attending a private religious school, 15% of those who were attending a public school, and seven percent of those who were attending a private school without a religious affiliation (7%) were propensed toward serving in the National Guard or Reserves.
- Among youth not currently enrolled, there were no statistically meaningful differences in general military propensity based on the type of high school attended: 18% of youth who had attended private schools with no religious affiliation, 12% of youth who had attended a public high school, and five percent of youth who had attended a private religious high school were propensed toward the general military. With regards to reserve composite propensity, 12% of youth who had attended a public school, 10% of youth who had attended a private religious school and 10% of youth who had attended a private non-religious high school were propensed toward the Reserve Components.
- Among those employed, the number of hours worked (on average) did not significantly relate to general military or reserve composite propensity.
- Marital status was not related to general military or reserve composite propensity.

[7] Two logistic regressions were conducted with grades in high school as the independent variables and general military propensity (FPP9) and composite reserve propensity as the dependent variables (both recoded to 0,1). General military propensity: $F(1,3004) = 63.77$, $p<.01$. Composite reserve propensity: $F(1, 3009) = 27.99$, $p<.01$.

June 2003 Propensity by Selected Demographics [8]

	General Military %	Army %	Navy %	Marine Corps %	Air Force %	Coast Guard %	*Reserve Composite* %	Natl Guard %	Reserves %
Age Group**									
16 *(n = 703)*	***23***	14	13	13	14	8	***19***	10	15
17 *(n = 710)*	***18***	11	9	9	12	8	***17***	9	13
18 *(n = 551)*	***17***	10	9	10	10	5	***13***	6	11
19 *(n = 431)*	***14***	8	7	7	10	5	***13***	7	9
20 *(n = 375)*	***11***	8	6	6	8	4	***10***	4	9
21 *(n = 307)*	***8***	6	6	5	5	4	***10***	7	6
Gender**									
Male *(n = 1,447)*	***22***	14	11	12	14	7	***18***	10	14
Female *(n = 1,630)*	***8***	6	6	5	6	4	***9***	5	7
Race**									
White non-Hispanic *(n = 1,871)*	***12***	8	6	6	7	4	***10***	5	8
African-American, non-Hispanic *(n = 463)*	***16***	10	13	11	15	8	***17***	10	14
Hispanic *(n = 504)*	***25***	17	15	17	16	11	***24***	13	20
Other non-Hispanic *(n = 239)*	***17***	11	9	9	10	6	***14***	8	9
Geographical Region**									
New England *(n = 102)*	***15***	10	11	11	10	7	***9***	7	6
Mid-Atlantic *(n = 357)*	***12***	9	7	8	7	8	***12***	7	10
East North Central *(n = 502)*	***11***	7	7	6	7	4	***9***	5	7
West North Central *(n = 221)*	***15***	8	8	6	8	2	***12***	5	11
South Atlantic *(n = 528)*	***17***	10	9	9	13	8	***17***	9	13
East South Central *(n = 172)*	***11***	10	8	4	9	5	***20***	11	13
West South Central *(n = 385)*	***17***	10	10	8	12	5	***17***	8	14
Mountain *(n = 236)*	***19***	12	8	11	12	4	***11***	6	8
Pacific *(n = 574)*	***18***	12	10	11	11	8	***15***	7	13
Marital Status									
Single and never have been married *(n = 2954)*	***16***	10	9	9	10	6	***14***	7	11
Widowed *(n = 4)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Separated *(n = 8)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Divorced *(n = 7)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Married *(n = 101)*	***8***	5	10	6	6	1	***7***	3	7
Something else *(n = 1)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Employment Status*									
Employed: Full-time/Part-time *(n = 1,471)*	***14***	8	6	7	10	6	***13***	6	10
Unemployed *(n = 1,604)*	***17***	11	11	10	10	6	***15***	8	11
Hours work per week									
1-9 hours *(n = 110)*	***14***	9	12	12	8	12	***11***	7	8
10-24 hours *(n = 576)*	***15***	8	6	7	9	4	***12***	6	9
25-34 hours *(n = 300)*	***13***	9	5	5	12	6	***15***	6	12
35+ hours *(n = 473)*	***13***	8	7	7	10	6	***13***	6	11
Education (currently enrolled)**									
Less than high school *(n = 24)*	***2***	4	-	-	3	2	***13***	4	13
High school *(n = 1,666)*	***20***	13	10	11	13	7	***16***	8	13
College *(n = 629)*	***7***	4	4	3	6	4	***8***	4	6
Graduate school *(n = 10)*	***9***	-	-	-	16	9	***9***	-	9
Community college *(n = 37)*	***4***	-	2	1	-	3	***1***	1	1
Vocational school *(n = 26)*	***6***	6	3	12	7	-	***13***	3	13
Education (highest level completed; not currently enrolled)**									
Less than high school *(n = 223)*	***24***	17	16	16	15	10	***25***	15	17
High school *(n = 357)*	***14***	11	8	8	9	4	***14***	6	11
College *(n = 81)*	***8***	3	3	5	4	1	***5***	3	4
Graduate school *(n = 5)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Community college *(n = 3)*	***-***	-	-	-	-		***-***	-	-
Vocational school *(n = 11)*	***31***	-	39	6	-	17	***-***	-	-

[8] *Differences between groups significant at 0.05 level based on analysis of variance for General Military Propensity only.
**Differences between groups significant at 0.05 level based on analysis of variance for General Military Propensity and Reserve Composite Propensity.
- Percentages suppressed for sub-groups with n < 10.
Detailed Results of significance testing are in Appendix B.

June 2003 Propensity by Selected Demographics - Males[9]

	General Military %	Army %	Navy %	Marine Corps %	Air Force %	Coast Guard %	*Reserve Composite* %	Natl Guard %	Reserves %
Age Group**									
16 *(n = 329)*	***33***	21	16	18	18	8	***24***	11	20
17 *(n = 322)*	***22***	15	12	12	14	11	***21***	11	16
18 *(n = 279)*	***24***	15	12	14	14	7	***19***	9	17
19 *(n = 199)*	***23***	12	10	10	17	7	***19***	11	12
20 *(n = 193)*	***18***	11	9	8	13	7	***14***	5	13
21 *(n = 125)*	***14***	10	7	8	8	4	***14***	12	7
Race**									
White non-Hispanic *(n = 907)*	***18***	12	8	9	10	5	***14***	7	11
African-American, non-Hispanic *(n = 188)*	***23***	11	16	16	21	9	***24***	13	19
Hispanic *(n = 234)*	***36***	25	19	21	23	14	***31***	17	25
Other non-Hispanic *(n = 118)*	***25***	15	13	11	14	8	***19***	13	11
Geographical Region									
New England *(n = 49)*	***21***	13	10	17	13	8	***10***	8	5
Mid-Atlantic *(n = 182)*	***17***	10	9	9	8	7	***16***	9	12
East North Central *(n = 207)*	***19***	11	9	10	11	5	***14***	7	10
West North Central *(n = 103)*	***26***	15	12	11	10	3	***16***	7	13
South Atlantic *(n = 255)*	***26***	13	13	14	21	11	***26***	13	21
East South Central *(n = 84)*	***15***	13	8	4	12	6	***23***	14	13
West South Central *(n = 170)*	***28***	14	14	13	20	7	***20***	12	16
Mountain *(n = 118)*	***23***	16	11	14	12	3	***13***	7	8
Pacific *(n = 279)*	***23***	18	12	13	14	10	***20***	10	17
Marital Status									
Single and never have been married *(n = 1418)*	***23***	14	11	12	14	8	***19***	10	14
Widowed *(n = 2)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-
Separated *(n = 5)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-
Divorced *(n = 1)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-
Married *(n = 19)*	***12***	11	24	19	18	-	***15***	7	15
Something else *(n = 1)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-
Employment Status	*-*						*-*		
Employed: Full-time/Part-time *(n = 707)*	***20***	12	8	10	15	8	***17***	9	13
Unemployed *(n = 740)*	***25***	16	15	13	13	7	***20***	11	15
Hours work per week									
1-9 hours *(n = 54)*	***24***	10	19	15	7	12	***15***	9	11
10-24 hours *(n = 252)*	***22***	12	7	11	12	7	***18***	8	14
25-34 hours *(n = 143)*	***20***	13	7	8	22	6	***20***	10	15
35+ hours *(n = 252)*	***19***	12	8	11	15	9	***16***	9	13
Education (currently enrolled)*									
Less than high school *(n = 8)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-
High school *(n = 805)*	***28***	18	14	14	16	8	***21***	10	17
College *(n = 258)*	***11***	5	5	5	10	4	***12***	7	8
Graduate school *(n = 4)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-
Community college *(n = 12)*	***8***	-	-	-	-	8	*-*	-	-
Vocational school *(n = 13)*	***6***	6	-	13	13	-	***19***	6	19
Education (highest level completed; not currently enrolled)*									
Less than high school *(n = 121)*	***34***	21	21	20	21	14	***33***	19	22
High school *(n = 167)*	***21***	17	10	11	13	6	***17***	9	14
College *(n = 46)*	***12***	4	4	8	5	1	***6***	4	4
Graduate school *(n = 4)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-
Community college *(n = 2)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-
Vocational school *(n = 5)*	*-*	-	-	-	-	-	*-*	-	-

[9] *Differences between groups significant at 0.05 level based on analysis of variance for General Military Propensity only.
**Differences between groups significant at 0.05 level based on analysis of variance for General Military Propensity and Composite Reserve Propensity.
- Percentages suppressed for sub-groups with n < 10.
Detailed Results of significance testing are in Appendix B.

June 2003 Propensity by Selected Demographics – Females[10]

	General Military %	Army %	Navy %	Marine Corps %	Air Force %	Coast Guard %	*Reserve Composite* %	Natl Guard %	Reserves %
Age Group**									
16 *(n = 374)*	***13***	8	10	9	11	8	***14***	9	10
17 *(n = 388)*	***13***	8	7	5	10	6	***12***	6	10
18 *(n = 272)*	***9***	6	5	7	6	3	***7***	3	6
19 *(n = 232)*	***6***	4	4	4	3	4	***8***	4	6
20 *(n = 182)*	***3***	4	3	3	4	1	***5***	2	5
21 *(n = 182)*	***3***	3	5	3	2	3	***7***	2	5
Race**									
White non-Hispanic *(n = 964)*	***6***	4	4	3	5	3	***6***	3	5
African-American, non-Hispanic *(n = 275)*	***10***	8	9	8	9	7	***12***	8	10
Hispanic *(n = 270)*	***13***	10	10	12	9	7	***17***	9	15
Other non-Hispanic *(n = 121)*	***8***	5	5	6	6	5	***8***	2	7
Geographical Region									
New England *(n = 53)*	***8***	7	12	4	6	5	***8***	6	8
Mid-Atlantic *(n = 175)*	***6***	8	4	8	7	8	***8***	4	6
East North Central *(n = 295)*	***6***	4	5	3	5	3	***6***	3	5
West North Central *(n = 118)*	***5***	1	3	2	5	-	***9***	4	9
South Atlantic *(n = 273)*	***8***	6	4	5	5	5	***7***	5	4
East South Central *(n = 88)*	***6***	6	7	4	6	3	***15***	8	12
West South Central *(n = 215)*	***7***	6	6	4	6	4	***14***	5	11
Mountain *(n = 118)*	***15***	6	6	8	12	6	***8***	4	8
Pacific *(n = 295)*	***12***	6	8	8	7	5	***10***	4	8
Marital Status									
Single and never have been married *(n = 1536)*	***8***	6	6	5	6	4	***9***	5	7
Widowed *(n = 2)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Separated *(n = 3)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Divorced *(n = 6)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Married *(n = 82)*	***6***	4	6	3	3	1	***5***	2	5
Something else *(n = 0)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Employment Status*									
Employed: Full-time/Part-time *(n = 764)*	***6***	5	5	4	5	4	***8***	4	7
Unemployed *(n = 864)*	***10***	7	7	7	7	5	***9***	6	8
Hours work per week									
1-9 hours *(n = 56)*	***4***	8	6	8	9	12	***7***	6	4
10-24 hours *(n = 324)*	***9***	4	4	4	6	2	***7***	4	5
25-34 hours *(n = 157)*	***6***	4	3	3	3	5	***9***	2	8
35+ hours *(n = 221)*	***5***	4	5	3	5	3	***10***	3	8
Education (currently enrolled)**									
Less than high school *(n = 16)*	***3***	-	-	-	5	3	***14***	-	14
High school *(n = 861)*	***12***	7	7	8	9	6	***11***	6	9
College *(n = 371)*	***3***	3	3	2	3	3	***6***	2	5
Graduate school *(n = 6)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Community college *(n = 25)*	***1***	-	4	1	-	-	***1***	1	1
Vocational school *(n = 13)*	***6***	6	6	12	-	-	***6***	-	6
Education (highest level completed; not currently enrolled)									
Less than high school *(n = 102)*	***10***	12	10	10	7	5	***13***	9	11
High school *(n = 190)*	***7***	5	6	5	4	2	***10***	4	8
College *(n = 35)*	***1***	1	1	-	1	-	***3***	1	3
Graduate school *(n = 1)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Community college *(n = 1)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-
Vocational school *(n = 6)*	***-***	-	-	-	-	-	***-***	-	-

[10] *Differences between groups significant at 0.05 level based on analysis of variance for General Military Propensity only.
**Differences between groups significant at 0.05 level based on analysis of variance for both General Military Propensity and Composite Reserve Propensity.
- Percentages suppressed for sub-groups with n < 10.
Detailed Results of significance testing are in Appendix B.

SUMMARY – FUTURE PLANS AND PROPENSITY

Males' propensity for serving in the military in general was 22%, an increase of three points from that measured in November 2002. Among females, propensity for serving in the military in general was eight percent (the same as November 2002). Males' reserve composite propensity was 18%, a drop of two percentage points from that measured in November 2002. Among females, reserve composite propensity was nine percent, a one-percentage point increase from that measured in November 2002.

With regard to males' likelihood to serve in the individual military branches, propensity levels are relatively similar across the Services: 14% of males are likely to join the Air Force, 14% the Army, 12% the Marine Corps, 11% the Navy, and seven percent the Coast Guard. Similarly, 14% are propensed for the Reserves and 10% are propensed for the National Guard.

The differences in propensity across the Services for females is even narrower, with propensity ranging from four percent for the Coast Guard, five percent for the Marine Corps, and six percent for the Air Force, Army and Navy. Seven percent are propensed for the Reserves and five percent are propensed for the National Guard.

Additional differences in propensity can be found when taking into account other key demographic characteristics. One important area that stands out and needs to be highlighted is for race/ethnicity. In general, Hispanics have the highest level of propensity followed by Blacks and then Whites. However, it is worth taking note of the propensity trends among Black males for the four DoD Services. Specifically, Black male propensity for the Army (11%) compares unfavorably with Black male propensity for the Air Force (21%) and to a lesser extent the Marine Corps (16%) and Navy (16%).[11]

In sum, most youth do not believe that they will be serving in the military, as less than one out of five reported that they would join the military in the next few years. While almost three quarters of youth (71%) gave at least some consideration to joining the military before participating in this poll, most decided for one reason or another that either school or work was a better option.

[11] This poll represents the first time that findings examining racial/ethnic differences among the Services have been conducted in the DoD Youth Polls. Past Youth Polls have been unable to examine these differences due to cost and sample size restrictions. Future research is needed that supports these findings and tracks trends before definitive conclusions should be drawn.

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SECTION III. YOUTH ATTITUDES TOWARD THE MILITARY

This section answers the second research question by providing a deeper understanding of youth's attitudes toward the military. While the primary emphasis of the June 2003 Youth Poll was to measure propensity and the supply of potential enlistees, the poll also contained survey items covering the following topics:

- Favorability toward the military
- Knowledge and impressions of the military
- Perceptions of the war with Iraq
- Youth's perception of the current and future economy

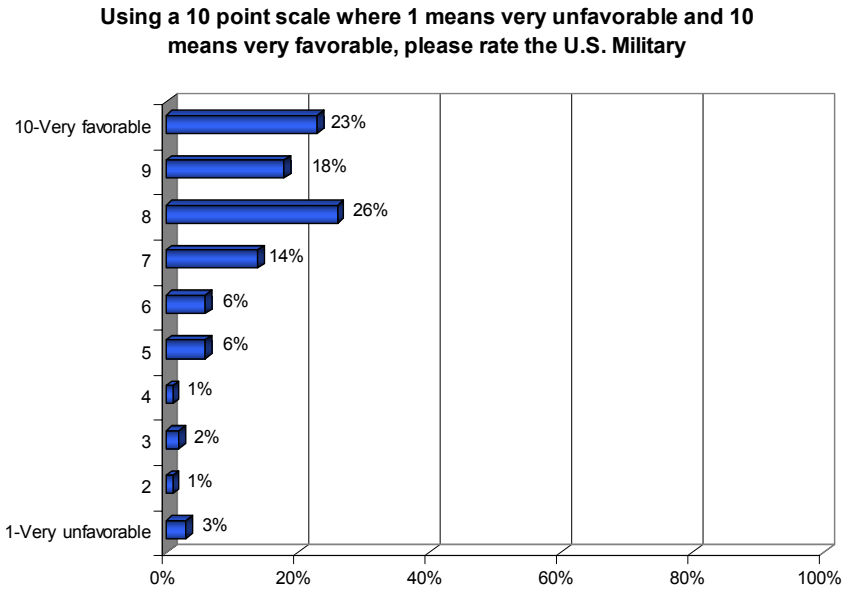
These topics are discussed in detail in this section. As described in the research approach, the reason for measuring and tracking these attitudes is that they are expected to have an influence on propensity, the primary measure of the Youth Polls.

FAVORABILITY

To understand the general trend of youth's attitudes toward the military, the Youth Polls include a measure of youth's favorability towards the military and its Services. These questions ask youth to rate their overall opinion of the military and its individual components on a 10-point scale.

View of Military (Overall)

Overall, youth had a positive view of the military, as they gave it a mean rating of 7.8 on a 10-point scale, up significantly from 7.3 in November 2002. Sixty-seven percent of youth rated it an 8 or higher, 12 percentage points higher than in November of 2002.



Favorability of the Military (Services, Components and Special Operations)
As illustrated in the following table, Special Operations was viewed the most positively by youth, receiving a mean favorability rating of 8.1 on a 10-point scale. Last year's highest rated Service, the Air Force, was still the most favorable Service, receiving a mean rating of 7.8. The Coast Guard was still the least positively rated, with a mean favorability rating of 7.2.

The Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Reserves and National Guard received favorability ratings in the range of 7.3 to 7.7. As with overall favorability, each of the individual Service and Component favorability ratings increased significantly from the levels observed in November of 2002, but ratings were still lower than November 2001.

Service	Mean Rating November 2001	Mean Rating November 2002	Mean Rating April 2003
Special Operations	-----	-----	8.1
Air Force	8.6	7.6	7.8
US Military	***8.4***	***7.3***	***7.8***
Marine Corps	8.4	7.2	7.7
Navy	8.3	7.2	7.6
Army	8.3	7.1	7.5
National Guard	8.2	7.1	7.4
Reserves	8.2	7.1	7.3
Coast Guard	8.0	6.8	7.2

Favorability by Demographics
The following table displays mean favorability ratings by demographic segments for the U.S. military, the Services and Components, and the Special Operations forces. There were little difference in the mean favorability ratings for the U.S. military, the Services, Components, or Special Operations forces when examined by age, gender, and geographical region.

Favorability ratings by race/ethnicity, however, differed. Blacks gave the lowest favorability rating to the U.S. military (7.0)[12], and also gave the lowest mean favorability rating to the Services, Components and Special Operations. A closer look revealed that only 53% of Blacks rated the military an 8 or higher, lower than the other racial/ethnic groups. Hispanics had the most positive view of the U.S. military, with 71% rating it an 8 or higher. Whites had the next most favorable response at 69%, followed by Others at 62%.

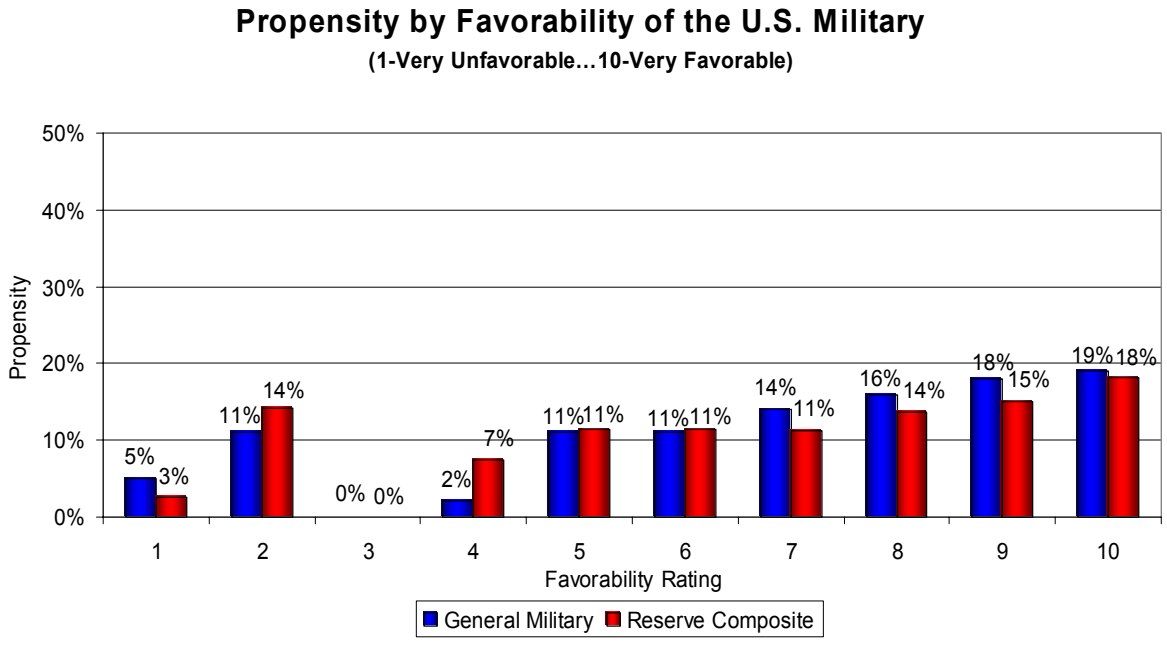
[12] Regression results for favorability with race/ethnicity as the independent variable. $F(3, 3056) = 15.95$, $p<.01$.

June 2003 Mean Favorability Ratings by Demographics

	U.S. Military	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	Coast Guard	Natl. Guard	Reserves	Special Ops
Age Group									
16	***7.9***	7.7	7.9	7.3	8.0	7.7	7.6	7.4	8.1
17	***7.8***	7.6	7.8	7.1	7.9	7.6	7.3	7.3	8.2
18	***7.8***	7.5	7.5	6.9	7.7	7.4	7.3	7.3	8.0
19	***7.7***	7.6	7.7	7.2	7.9	7.5	7.4	7.3	8.0
20	***7.7***	7.3	7.7	7.2	7.7	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.9
21	***7.8***	7.6	7.7	7.3	7.8	7.7	7.4	7.4	8.3
Gender									
Male	***7.8***	7.4	7.7	6.9	7.8	7.4	7.1	7.1	8.2
Female	***7.8***	7.7	7.8	7.4	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.6	8.0
Race									
White non-Hispanic	***7.9***	7.7	7.9	7.4	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.5	8.2
Black non-Hispanic	***7.0***	6.8	6.5	6.3	7.3	7.0	6.7	6.6	7.0
Hispanic	***8.0***	7.6	8.1	7.1	7.9	7.6	7.4	7.3	8.3
Other non-Hispanic	***7.7***	7.5	7.7	7.1	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.3	8.0
Geographic Region									
New England	***7.6***	7.5	7.7	7.0	7.4	7.5	7.1	7.0	8.1
Mid-Atlantic	***7.7***	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.8	7.7	7.3	7.3	7.9
East North Central	***7.8***	7.6	7.8	7.3	7.9	7.6	7.5	7.5	8.2
West North Central	***8.0***	7.7	7.8	7.4	7.9	7.6	7.5	7.6	8.2
South Atlantic	***7.9***	7.7	7.6	7.3	7.9	7.6	7.4	7.4	8.0
East South Central	***8.0***	7.5	7.1	6.9	7.9	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.8
West South Central	***7.9***	7.6	7.9	7.0	8.0	7.7	7.4	7.4	8.3
Mountain	***7.7***	7.5	7.8	7.0	7.7	7.5	7.2	7.3	8.4
Pacific	***7.6***	7.3	7.8	7.0	7.7	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.9

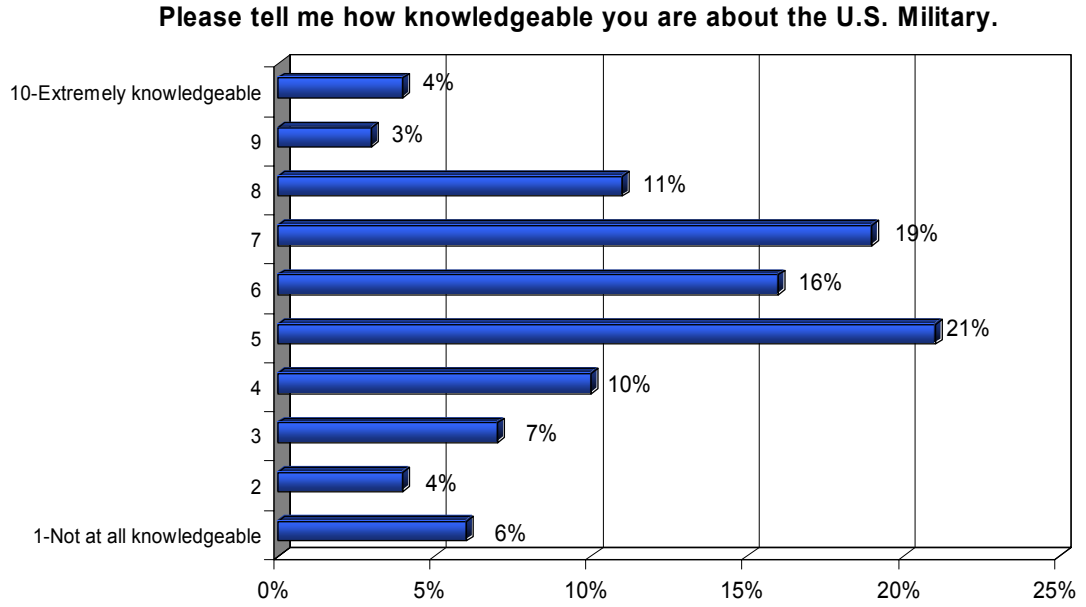
Impact of Favorability on Propensity

As the following chart demonstrates, general military and reserve composite propensity increase as favorability increases. When examined within gender and racial/ethnic subpopulations, this relationship remains.

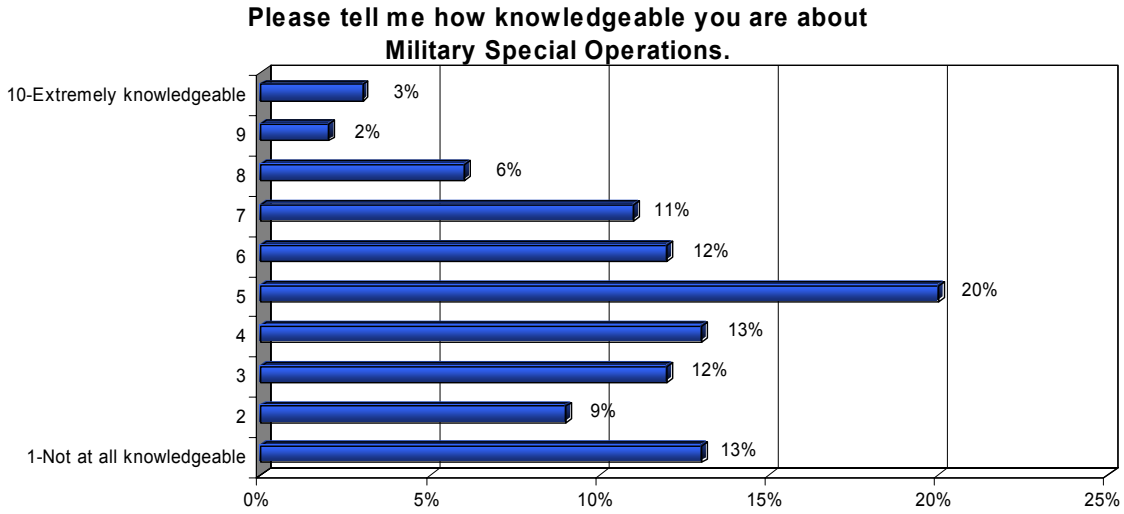


MILITARY KNOWLEDGE

To better understand the level of familiarity that youth have with the military, a question about their knowledge was included in the Youth Polls. This question asked youth to rate their knowledge of the military on a 10-point scale. This measure revealed that youth did not feel they had a great deal of knowledge about the military, as evidenced by a mean score of 5.6 (1-not at all knowledgeable…10-extremely knowledgeable). This mean rating is 0.5 higher than observed in November of 2002, but 0.2 points lower than November 2001. Overall, only 4% of youth considered themselves to be "extremely knowledgeable," while 6% thought they were "not at all knowledgeable."



A second question was asked to determine youth's perceived level of knowledge of the U.S. Special Operations such as Special Forces, Seals or Pararescuemen. This measure revealed that youth feel they know even less about U.S. Special Operations, as evidenced by a mean score of 4.5 on a 10-point scale. Only 3% considered themselves to be "extremely knowledgeable", while 13% thought they were "not at all knowledgeable."



Knowledge by Demographics

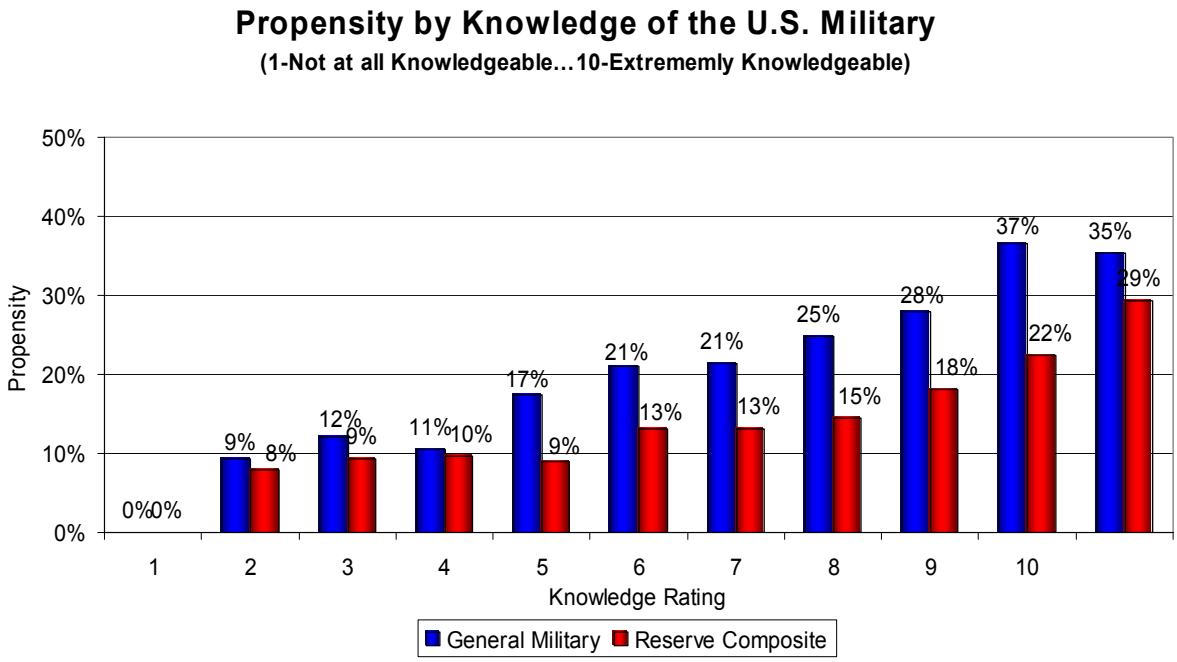
Male youth (mean knowledge rating 5.8) tended to report more knowledge about the U.S. Military than females (mean knowledge rating 5.3), with 20% of males rating their knowledge as an 8 or higher, compared to 15% of females; 5% of males considered themselves to be "not at all knowledgeable" compared to 8% of females. There were no statistical differences in the mean knowledge ratings across racial/ethnic subgroups. Twenty percent of Black youth (the segment with the lowest mean favorability rating) rated their knowledge an 8 or higher, compared to 17% of Whites, 19% of Hispanics, and 13% of Others.

June 2003 Mean Knowledge Ratings by Demographics

	U.S. Military	Special Ops
Age Group		
16	***5.5***	4.5
17	***5.6***	4.5
18	***5.6***	4.5
19	***5.4***	4.4
20	***5.7***	4.7
21	***5.6***	4.7
Gender		
Male	***5.8***	4.9
Female	***5.3***	4.2
Race		
White non-Hispanic	***5.6***	4.5
Black non-Hispanic	***5.5***	4.5
Hispanic	***5.5***	4.8
Other non-Hispanic	***5.4***	4.5
Geographic Region		
New England	***5.7***	4.9
Mid-Atlantic	***5.6***	4.5
East North Central	***5.3***	4.5
West North Central	***5.6***	4.5
South Atlantic	***5.6***	4.4
East South Central	***5.8***	4.7
West South Central	***5.7***	4.6
Mountain	***5.5***	4.6
Pacific	***5.5***	4.6

Impact of Knowledge on Propensity

As is the case with favorability, the results of the June 2003 Youth Poll display a similar trend with regard to knowledge. The following chart demonstrates that general military propensity[13] and reserve composite propensity[14] increase as knowledge increases. However, there is one important exception to this finding. Among Blacks, self-reported knowledge was not related to general military propensity or reserve composite propensity.



[13] Logistic Regression Results: F (1, 3062) = 36.21, p < 0.05

[14] Logistic Regression Results: F (1, 3067) = 27.46, p < 0.05

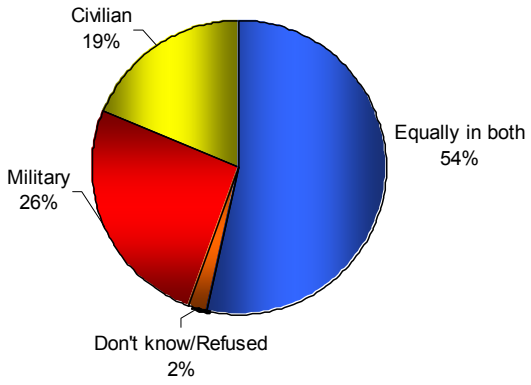
ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Youth's perceptions of the economy and their job environment are important factors related to the enlistment decision. The June 2003 Youth Poll showed that youth are generally optimistic about their future job market, and believe military pay is competitive with the civilian job market.

Good Paying Jobs

When asked if individuals are more likely to have a good paying job in the military, in a civilian job or equally in both, 54% of youth felt that individuals are just as likely to have a good paying job in the military as they are in the civilian sector, 26% felt that individuals are more likely to have a good paying job in the military, and 19% felt that individuals are more likely to have a good paying civilian job.

Are individuals more likely to have a good paying job in the military, in a civilian job, or equally in both?



Based on race and gender, a majority of youth from all segments saw an equal chance for good pay in both the military and a civilian job.

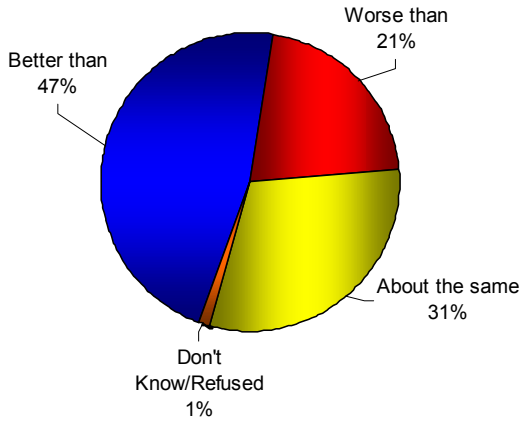
Among males, Blacks were the most likely to feel that individuals are more likely to have a good paying job in the military (34%), compared to 18% of Whites, 27% of Hispanics, and 23% of Others. Whites were the most likely to feel that individuals are more likely to have a good paying job in the civilian sector (30%), while only 13% of Blacks, 15% of Hispanics, and 21% of Others felt this.

The pattern among male youth does not hold for females. Nearly a third of Whites (30%), Blacks (32%), and Hispanic (31%) believed they were more likely to have a good paying job in the military. Among Others, 23% believed they were more likely to have a good paying job in the military, same as among males for this subpopulation.

Economic Outlook

Nearly half of youth (47%) felt that the economy would be better in four years, compared to 42% in November 2002.

Four years from now, do you think the economy will be better than, worse than, or about the same as it is today?



Overall, males tended to be more optimistic about the future economy than females (52% males choose "better than" versus 43% of females). Black youth were the least optimistic, only 38% thought the economy would be better four years from now (White: 50%, Hispanic: 46%, and Other: 48%).

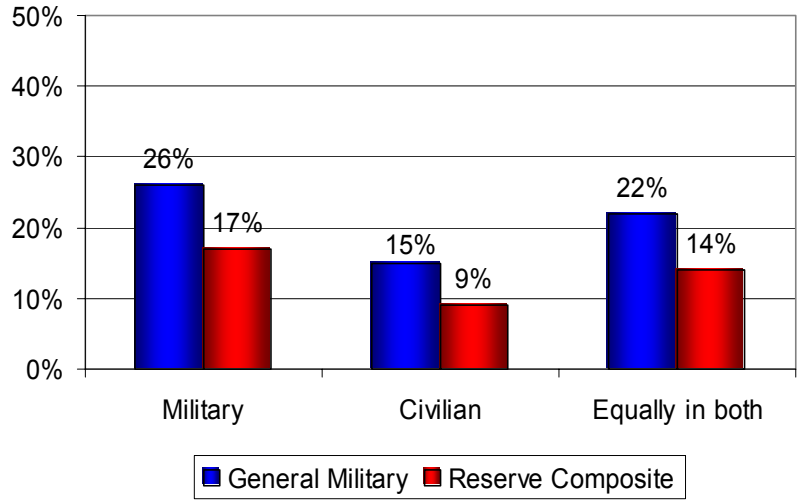
Among specific segments, Other male youth had the most favorable economic outlook with 57% confident in a better economy followed by White males (55%). Black females had the least favorable economic outlook, only 36% expected the economy to be better in four years. A sizeable gap existed by gender among White youth (male 55% better; female 44% better), while responses by gender among Blacks (male 39% better; female 36% better) and Hispanics (male 46% better; female 45% better) were similar.

Impact of Economic Indicators on Propensity

Youth who said that they were more likely to find a good paying job in the civilian sector were the least likely to be propensed for the general military.[15] This trend was found for Whites (general military propensity 9%), Blacks (general military propensity 4%), and Hispanics (general military propensity 12%).

The same was found true for reserve composite propensity. Youth who felt that a civilian job offered the best opportunity for good pay were the least likely to be propensed.

Propensity by "Are individuals more likely to have a good paying job in…"



General Military Propensity by "Are you more likely to find a good paying job in the…?"

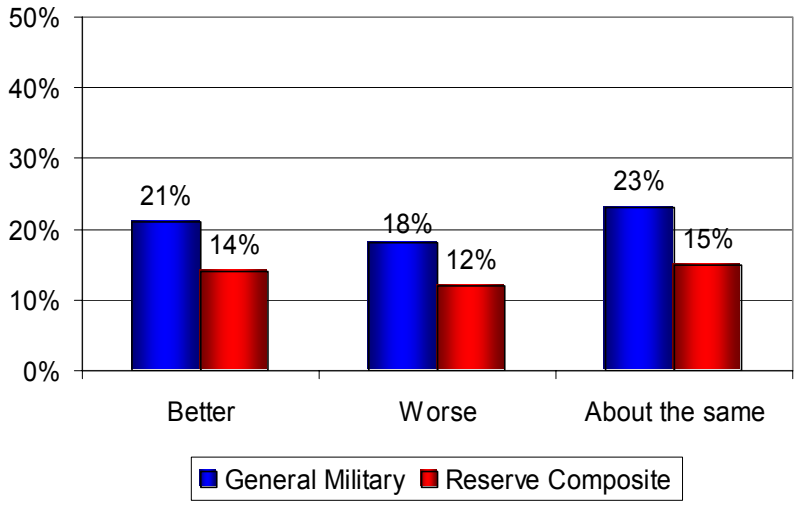
		White non-Hispanic %	Black non-Hispanic %	Hispanic %	Other non-Hispanic %
Male	Military	29	32	41	24
	Civilian	12	9	17	19
	Equally in both	19	22	39	28
Female	Military	8	11	14	18
	Civilian	2	0	4	5
	Equally in both	6	12	14	6

[15] T-tests were conducted on mean propensity levels for youth who reported likelihood of good pay in the military, a civilian job versus equally in both.
- General military propensity: difference between "Civilian" and "Military": $t = 4.87$, $p < 0.05$; difference between "Equally in Both" and "Military": $t = 3.94$, $p < 0.05$.
- Reserve Composite Propensity: difference between "Civilian" and "Military": $t = 4.07$, $p < 0.05$; difference between "Equally in Both" and "Military": $t = 2.96$, $p < 0.05$.

When asked about the state of the economy in four years, youth who believed the economy would be about the same as is today were more propensed toward the general military than youth who believed the economy would be worse.[16] Examining the results by race/ethnicity and gender reveals that this effect was driven primarily by Black males and Hispanic females.

This finding seems somewhat counterintuitive given that worsening or poor economic conditions have traditionally been linked to the ease with which recruiters are able to meet their recruiting goal. This finding suggests that youth who are neutral about the future are more likely to join than those who feel the future looks bleak.

Propensity by "Four years from now, do you think the economy will be…than today"



General Military Propensity by Economic Outlook

		White non-Hispanic %	Black non-Hispanic %	Hispanic %	Other non-Hispanic %
Male	Better	18	26	33	26
	Worse	18	11	37	21
	About the same	19	28	40	25
Female	Better	5	7	15	7
	Worse	6	8	2	9
	About the same	8	15	17	10

[16] T-tests were conducted on mean propensity levels for youth who reported Better than, Worse than, or About the same. General military propensity: Difference between "About the same" and "Worse than": $t = 2.79$, $p < 0.05$

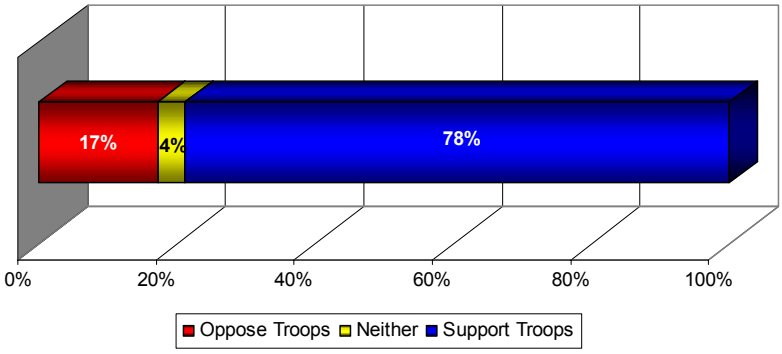
CURRENT EVENTS

The June 2003 Youth Poll asked respondents how current events affect their likelihood to join the military.

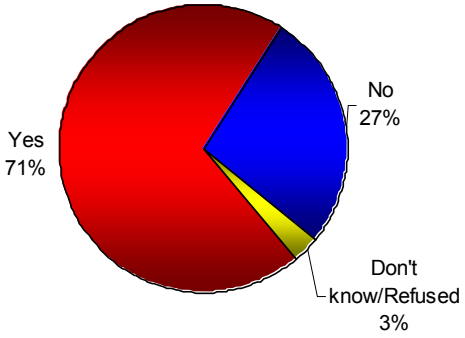
War in Iraq

Seventy-eight percent of youth reported they support U.S. military troops being in Iraq. A similar sentiment was felt when asked if the United States was justified in its decision to go to war with Iraq, as 71% of youth agreed the U.S. was justified.

Do you support or oppose US Military troops being in Iraq?

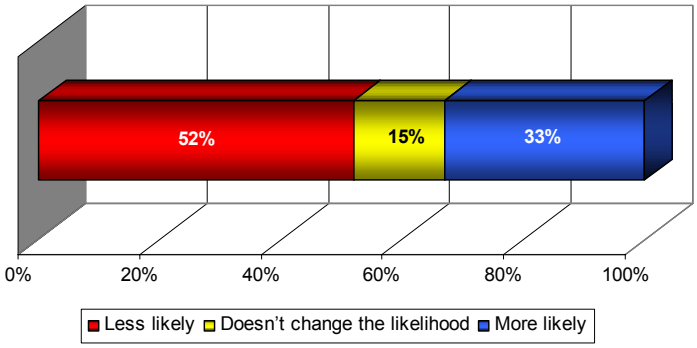


Do you feel the United States was justified in its decision to go to war with Iraq?



The study results indicated that 33% of youth were more likely to join the military due to the war in Iraq, while 52% said the war made them less likely to join. Fifteen percent said the war in Iraq did not change their likelihood of joining the military.

Does this make you more or less likely to join military service?



A closer look at the following table reveals additional differences by gender and race/ethnicity. Overall, the war in Iraq made males more likely to join the military than females (42% of males more likely to join vs. 23% of females) Among both males and females, the war in Iraq increased the likelihood most among Whites (male 46%; female 28%) and Hispanics (male 43%; female 25%). In contrast, the war had the most adverse effect on Blacks; with 66% of Black males and 86% of Black females indicating they were less likely to join.

Does the war in Iraq make you more likely or does it make you less likely to join the military?

		White non-Hispanic %	Black non-Hispanic %	Hispanic %	Other non-Hispanic %
Male	More likely	46	22	43	37
	Doesn't change likelihood	19	11	16	9
	Less Likely	34	66	41	53
Female	More likely	28	7	25	13
	Doesn't change likelihood	16	6	10	16
	Less Likely	56	86	65	71

SUMMARY - YOUTH ATTITUDES TOWARD THE MILITARY

Overall, youth had a positive view of the military, giving it an average rating of 7.8 on a 10-point scale. Special Operations and the Air Force were viewed the most positively by youth, the Coast Guard was viewed the least positively, and the Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Reserves and National Guard were clustered in the middle. The favorability for the military and each of the Services and Components increased from the November 2002 observation.

Similar to results from the November 2002 Youth Poll, youth did not feel that they had a great deal of knowledge about the military, as evidenced by a mean score of 5.6 on a 10-point scale. Only 4% considered themselves to be "extremely knowledgeable," while 6% thought they were "not at all knowledgeable."

In general, American youth had positive perceptions of the amount of pay military personnel receive for the jobs they perform. In fact, 54% of youth reported that they felt individuals were just as likely to have a good paying job in the military as they were in a civilian job. Youth's outlook on the economy was also optimistic with nearly half (47%) reporting the economy would be better in four years.

Not surprisingly, the war has had an effect on youth's likelihood to join the military. When asked about the war in Iraq, 52% of youth reported that they were less likely to join the military as a result. One third 33% reported that the war made them more likely to join the military. However, it is important to note that the youth that reported this tended to be those who reported being propensed in the first place. The converse holds true for those who reported that the war had made them less likely to join. As we observed in past Youth Polls, it is likely safer to assume that the current military action has polarized youth's attitudes toward the military. Regardless of the effect the war has had on likelihood to join the military, 78% of youth reported that they support U.S. military troops being in Iraq and 71% said the US was justified in its decision to go to war.

SECTION IV. YOUTH QUALIFICATIONS

Any discussion of military manpower requirements must include two different aspects, one having to do with the quantity of personnel and the other related to the qualifications of personnel. Using propensity to estimate the number of youth currently interested in or intending to join military service is informative, but incomplete. A better estimate of current and future supply must also take into account the qualifications of those youth interested in entering one of the military services in the future. While force structure dictates the number or quantity of people needed to fill military units, the qualifications of those people in terms of the knowledge, aptitudes, skills and motivation determine the effectivenesss of those units.

Current U.S. Military manpower qualifications include a cluster of human attributes that have been found to be strong predictors of how well a new recruit can adjust to military life and how well the recruit will be able to perform in military jobs. Recognizing the importance of these attributes for effective military performance, the Department of Defense has set minimum levels for these attributes that applicants must meet to be eligible for enlistment. These minimum levels comprise what are known as enlistment standards. In the June 2003 Youth Poll we examined youth's ability to meet these enlistment standards set by the Department of Defense, which we divided into four major areas:

1. Educational and aptitude requirements
2. Physical & medical requirements
3. Moral (drug use, criminal convictions) requirements
4. Certain demographic characteristics (e.g., age, number of dependents)

The ability of youth to meet these standards varies by their demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, age, geographical region). As mentioned in Section I, different gender and racial/ethnic groups can and often do have different rates of qualifying characteristics and different propensities to enlist. Given the U.S. Military's goal to maintain equal representation, differences such as these can impose very real challenges to members of the recruiting community.

MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS AND ENLISTMENT STANDARDS

The primary focus of this report is on DoD-wide standards. In general, Service-specific requirements are more stringent than are the DoD-wide standards. As such, the estimates and calculations provided in the following pages should be considered to be conservative estimates for each Service. However, three other primary issues must be addressed and understood when interpreting this data and findings.

First, the enlistment standards set by the DoD include a relatively lengthy list of conditions that may disqualify a youth from service. Also, each individual Service sets qualification standards that are different because of their unique needs. The purpose of this investigation was not to cover DoD and Service enlistment standards in their entirety. In addition, the goal was not to cover the relatively complicated waiver process that the military uses for certain enlistment standards. Rather, the goal of this study was to cover only the major issues that are expected to severely affect the current or future supply of youth interested in and able to join the military. Our hope is that this goal was accomplished satisfactorily enough so that decision makers will have a better understanding of the challenges that recruiters must face. However, conclusions must be evaluated in terms of what **is not covered** as much as what **is covered**.

Second, some standards are common across all Services, such as education and certain aptitude measures, while others may vary relatively substantially by Service. A few standards, such as physical fitness (body mass index) levels, are unique to each Service. To calculate eligibility for the military overall, we used the lowest standard set either across the Services or by the DoD. In doing this, we hope to provide a conservative estimate for the impact that each standard has on the size of the eligible and propensed recruit population.

A final issue involves response biases for some of the areas covered in this poll, such as certain physical and moral standards. The primary challenge involves providing precise and "true" population estimates. In any type of questionnaire or poll, biases are introduced as a result of the medium of data collection, self-report. With some types of questions, participants may be unwilling to provide the "true" answer when it is easier and more self-enhancing to provide an answer that is socially acceptable. Typically, this bias is relatively straightforward. However, in some areas of measurement, such as reporting medical conditions, interpreting what is "socially acceptable" can be a challenge.

For example, youth are often motivated to respond that they do not have a criminal record of any type, regardless of their actual criminal record, because of the inherent tendency to self-enhance. In contrast, because of the recent media coverage of medical conditions such as asthma or attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), respondents will not necessarily self-enhance. Since the media portrays these conditions as common and provides detailed descriptions of the symptoms of the conditions, there may be a tendency for some people to respond that they have these conditions because they have at times been short of breath or at times had trouble staying focused on a task. This happens regardless of whether they have actually been actually diagnosed with the condition by a medical professional.

To mitigate the effects of these known shortcomings, two things were done. First, in the development of the questionnaire special attention was given to identifying other research that had been conducted in the areas covered by this poll. As appropriate and possible, lessons learned, question wording and format were borrowed from these studies. For example, the Center

for Disease Control (CDC) has been tracking the prevalence of asthma for a number of years. During this time they have identified a specific format of question that minimizes certain types of self-report biases. The format identified by the CDC was used in this poll. Second, in the following pages we provide not only the estimates from this poll but also estimates from other national studies conducted by various government and private agencies. We do this so that the readers of this report can have a second source of information immediately available to them in order to evaluate the findings from this poll.

There are two types of DoD enslistment standards discussed in the pagest that follow. One type consists of absolute minimums or maximums set by statute or by DoD policy directives. The other type comes from Defense Guidances, which provide DoD policy benchmarks used during the budgeting process.[17] While Defense Guidance benchmarks are not rigid requirements, the Secretary of Defense monitors Service budgets for compliance and may require budget reallocations in order to meet the benchmarks.

The remainder of this section will discuss each of the major standards in turn. First, standards related to the general quality of the recruiting market will be discussed. We will discuss education and aptitude standards, but we will not attempt to estimate the number of youth inelgible for these reasons because of the relatively complicated nature of this process. The remainder of this section will focus on the final three sets of standards (physical and medical, moral and dependents). For each of these three sets, we will provide the explicit standard, the rationale for that standard, trends in youth qualification levels as they relate to each standard (as available), descriptive information relating to each standard and the proportion of youth in the population who fail to meet the qualification standard.

[17] Defense Planning Guidance is issued annually by the Secretary of Defense to all military departments and agencies during the early stages of the budgeting process. It provides goals and priorities for preparing the budget and consequently defines DoD policy in many areas. For example, the education and aptitude benchmarks allow the Services to establish sufficient resources in their recruiting budgets to meet these benchmarks. Service budget submissions are monitored for compliance during the year, and should achievement of the benchmarks be in doubt the Secretary of Defense may require allocation of resources in the final version of the budget submitted to Congress.

EDUCATION AND APTITUDE

Based on many years of research and experience, the two most important qualifications for military service performance and retention are a high school diploma and aptitude (as measured by the Armed Forces Qualification Test [AFQT]). Defense Guidance dictates that at least 90 percent of non-prior service accessions must have a high school diploma. Youth with GED certificates are considered non-high school diploma graduates.

Education standards have been justified primarily on the basis of first-term attrition rates. Research conducted over many decades has demonstrated repeatedly that non-high school graduates have attrition rates during their first term of enlistment that are nearly twice as high as high school diploma graduates.

The good news is that the number of high school graduates is projected to increase 9 percent to 3.1 million from 1999–2000 to 2011–12. Increases in the number of graduates are expected for both public (nine percent increase to 2.8 million in 2011-12) and private schools (six percent increase to 294,000 in 2011-12). The significant rise in the number of graduates reflects the increase in the 18-year-old population over the projection period, more so than it does changes in the graduation rates of 12th-graders.[18]

High School Diploma

Among the 16-21 year old population, 77% of youth who were not currently enrolled in high school had a regular high school diploma. However, this may be a somewhat downwardly biased estimate as it includes the subset of youth who dropped out of high school but does not include the majority of youth in that age range who are still enrolled and will complete high school.

Looking at youth aged 18-21, however, does reveal a similar pattern. Only 79% of youth who were not enrolled had earned their high school degree. The majority of the remainder had either earned their GED or had not earned a degree of any type. This is less than the Defense Guidance's desired level of 90% of non-prior service accessions having a high school diploma.

Among 16-21 year olds, a slightly higher proportion of females received a regular high school diploma. Among the racial/ethnic subgroups, Whites and Others tended to have the highest proportions of high school diploma graduates. White females (81%) had the highest proportion of high school diploma graduates across all segments, while Black males (60%) had the lowest.

[18] A high school graduate is defined as an individual who has received formal recognition from school authorities, by the granting of a diploma, for completing a prescribed course of studies at the secondary school level. This definition does not include other high school completers, high school equivalency recipients, or other diploma recipients.

Proportion of Youth Not Currently Enrolled in School Receiving a…

	Overall %	White non-Hispanic %		Black non-Hispanic %		Hispanic %		Other non-Hispanic %	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Regular High School Diploma	***77***	76	81	60	79	73	74	79	80
GED	***9***	12	7	11	5	6	6	12	14
ABE	***-***	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
High School Completion Certificate	***1***	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-
Other	***1***	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
None of the Above	***13***	11	12	28	10	20	17	8	6

Aptitude

In the military, aptitude standards are expressed in terms of scores on the AFQT, as follows: Category I contains those who score in the 93-99th percentile; Category II contains those who score in the 65-92nd percentile; Category IIIA, the 50-64th percentile; Category IIIB, the 31-49th percentile; Category IV, the 10-30 percentile; and Category V contains those who score below the 10th percentile.

Minimum Aptitude Standards:

- Youth who score in Category V are ineligible to enlist
- No Service may enlist more than 20 percent of Category IV recruits
- *(Defense Guidance)* At least 60 percent of accessions in each Service should be Category I-IIIA
- *(Defense Guidance)* No Service should enlist more than 4 percent Category IV, and all Category IV recruits should be high school diploma graduates

Aptitude standards have been justified on several grounds. Historically, aptitude standards were justified by passing rates in training schools and other commonsense criteria, such as reading skills. For example, Category IV recruits have been estimated to read at only the 3rd or 4th grade level, which means that even the most basic training manuals for the easiest jobs may be beyond their reading ability.

More recently, the Department of Defense requested a comprehensive study of job performance that found substantial correlations between AFQT scores and performance in a wide range of enlisted jobs, including combat specialties.[19] At all levels of job experience, Category I-II personnel have much higher hands-on job performance scores than Category III personnel, and Category IV personnel scored much lower.

Past work by the Rand corporation has shown that a variety of factors can be effictively used to estimate the likelihood of someone scoring in Category I-IIIA on the AFQT. These factors include race/ethnicity, gender, parents education, type of high school attended, and high school classes taken. Although the specific AFQT estimation will not be reported here, the factors shown to be related to performance on the AFQT are described in detail below.

[19] National Research Council (1994). Modeling cost and performance for military enlistment. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

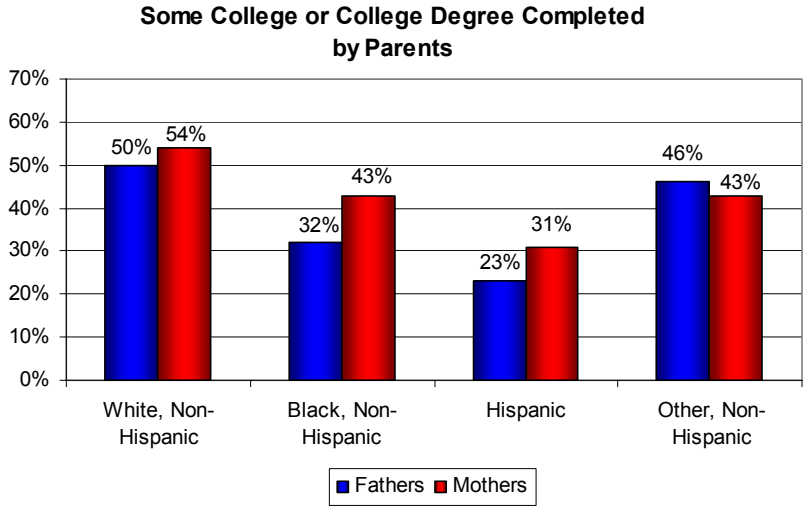
Parents' Education

Past research has shown that the higher the education completed by a mother or father, the greater the likelihood of their child performing well on the AFQT.

When asked about their parents' highest level of education, 14% reported that their father had not finished high school, 27% reported their father finished high school, 34% had fathers who had attended some college (4-year, community, or vocational) and 13% had fathers who had at least some graduate or professional schooling. Similarly, 14% of youth reported their mother had not finished high school, 28% reported their mother had finished high school, 41% had mothers who had attended some college (4-year, community, or vocational), and 11% reported their mother had at least some graduate or professional schooling.

Looking across racial/ethnic groups, strong differences emerge in terms of parent's level of education. The most striking of which is the level of high school completion among the parents of Hispanic youth. Almost a third of Hispanic youth reported that either their mother (32%) or their father (33%) had not completed high school, this is almost triple the rate for Whites (mothers 9%, fathers 10%), Blacks (mothers 15%, fathers 10%), and Others (mothers 11%, fathers, 15%).

Further, there are other substantial differences across the racial/ethnic groups in regards to their parents' highest level of educations. More than half of Whites had parents who had at least some college or graduate school (mothers 59%, fathers, 54%). Similarly, almost half of Others had mothers (45%) or fathers (51%) who had some college or graduate school. Although Black youth did tend to have more educated mothers (50% with some college or graduate school) only about a third (36%) reported their fathers had attended at least some college. Similarly, only about a third (33%) of Hispanics had mothers who had at least one year of college and only a quarter (25%) had fathers who had at least one year of college.



Type of High School Program

A second predictor of performance on the AFQT is the type of high school program that a youth is enrolled in. Specifically, youth who are in a college preparatory program have a higher likelihood of performing well on the AFQT.

Seventy-eight percent of youth were enrolled in an academic or college preparatory high school program, while 75% of youth who were not currently enrolled in school had been enrolled in this type of program when they were in high school. Seven percent of all were in a community or business training high school program. Twelve percent of youth enrolled in school (and 14% of youth not currently enrolled) were enrolled in a vocational or technical program.

Females were more likely to be enrolled a college preparatory program than were males (81% vs. 75%). Similarly, of those not currently in school, females were more likely to have been enrolled in a college preparatory program than were males (80% vs. 70%). Whites were also more likely to be currently enrolled (81%) or previously enrolled (79%) in a college preparatory program than were Blacks (73% currently, 69% had been in past), Hispanics (72% currently, 66% had been in past) or Others (78% currently, 72% had been in past).

Is Your High School Program…?

(Youth who were currently enrolled in high school)

		White non-Hispanic %	Black non-Hispanic %	Hispanic %	Other non-Hispanic %
Male	Academic or College Prep	78	67	71	74
	Community or Business Training	4	12	11	11
	Vocational or Technical	14	14	15	14
Female	Academic or College Prep	84	78	74	81
	Community or Business Training	5	7	8	5
	Vocational or Technical	8	12	14	9

Was Your High School Program…?

(Youth who graduated from high school or had completed one year and were not currently enrolled)

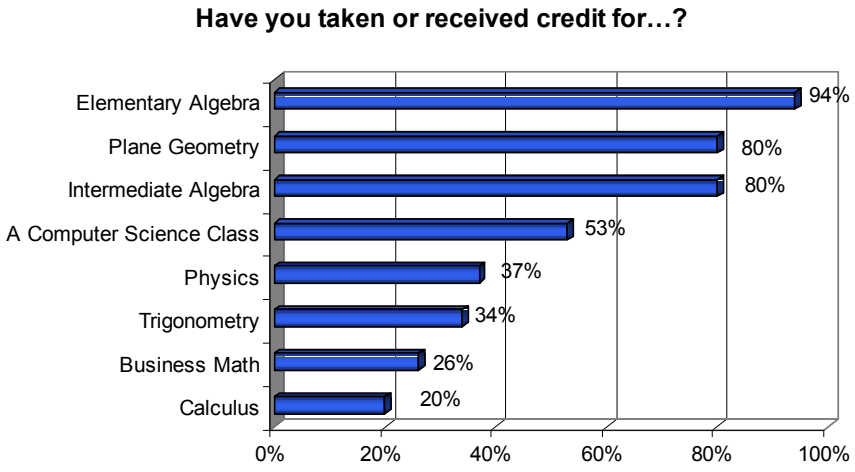
		White non-Hispanic %	Black non-Hispanic %	Hispanic %	Other non-Hispanic %
Male	Academic or College Prep	75	63	58	68
	Community or Business Training	5	6	13	9
	Vocational or Technical	16	29	22	20
Female	Academic or College Prep	83	74	75	78
	Community or Business Training	5	5	17	5
	Vocational or Technical	8	20	7	17

Mathematical and Technical Courses

An understanding of basic mathematics and sciences is a requisite for performance on the AFQT. As such it is not surprsing that the number and type of classes taken in advanced mathematics and science have been found to have a strong positive relationship with performance on the AFQT.

The good news is that trend data from the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP)[20] reveals that 4th, 8th, and 12th graders' performance in mathematics has been steadily increasing since 1990. However, students are still not performing, on average, above a basic level. In 2000, for example, 66% of students were performing at or above a basic level while only 27 percent of students were performing at or above a proficient level.

In regards to the specific courses taken, over nine out of 10 youth have taken elementary algebra, while eight out of ten have taken geometry and intermediate algebra. Further, a majority of youth have taken a computer science class. However, concerning more advanced math and science courses, only about a third have taken physics or trigonometry and only 20% have taken calculus.



Of the eight math and science courses mentioned, the proportion of youth having taken these classes varied mainly for three courses: plane geometry, trigonometry, and calculus. Among males, the results show that more White males and Other males took these advanced mathematics classes than Black or Hispanic males. The results also differed among females. However, the proportion of Black female youth who took these courses is similar to the proportion of White and Other females, while Hispanic female youth continue to trail behind their counterparts in these three courses.

[20] National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), often referred to as the "nation's report card" is an aptitude test given to students at the 4th, 8th, and 12th grade levels. NAEP involves three separate elements: national data, reported here, state data based on specific curricula, and longitudinal data that allows researchers to track trends.

		White non-Hispanic %	Black non-Hispanic %	Hispanic %	Other non-Hispanic %
Male	Elementary Algebra	95	93	89	95
*	Plane Geometry	83	71	65	86
	Business Math	25	28	31	25
	Computer Science Class	56	52	57	56
	Intermediate Algebra	81	74	73	78
*	Trigonometry	38	25	21	47
*	Calculus	23	15	18	38
	Physics	40	36	37	43
Female	Elementary Algebra	96	91	92	94
*	Plane Geometry	83	85	70	81
	Business Math	24	21	29	31
	Computer Science Class	50	52	52	44
	Intermediate Algebra	83	85	77	82
*	Trigonometry	37	32	19	33
*	Calculus	18	20	14	30
	Physics	32	43	34	38

PHYSICAL AND MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS
(DoD Directive 6130.3, December 15, 2000)

One of the primary challenges the military faces in increasing the quantity and quality of enlistments is to find youth who meet its physical and medical requirements. The Department of Defense has set various physical and medical standards for enlistment eligibility. The list of qualifications and the long list of disqualifying medical conditions can be summed up in five general requirements.

The DoD's specific physical and medical requirements are designed to ensure that applicants are:

- Free of contagious diseases that may endanger the health of other personnel.
- Free of medical conditions or physical defects that may require excessive time lost from duty for necessary treatment or hospitalization or probably will result in separation from the military for medical unfitness.
- Medically capable of satisfactorily completing required training.
- Medically adaptable to the military environment without the necessity of geographical area limitations.
- Medically capable of performing duties without aggravation of existing physical defects or medical conditions.

The U.S. military has translated these five guidelines into a relative 'laundry list' of very specific disqualifying medical conditions. It was not the purpose of this poll to ask youth if they suffer from every disqualifying condition that the military has identified. Rather, the purpose was to focus on those conditions that have the greatest impact on the quantity of youth eligible for enlistment. This resulted in the asking of three general categories of issues affecting youth's health.

1. Obesity and physical fitness
2. Ability to perform certain required physical activities
3. Doctor diagnosed medical conditions

Obesity and Physical Fitness

Obesity has risen at an epidemic rate during the past 20 years in the United States. The obesity epidemic discussed on television and in the newspapers did not occur overnight. Obesity and being overweight are chronic conditions. There are a variety of factors that play a role in weight problems--behavior, environment, and genetic factors--each of which may lend a hand in "causing" someone to be overweight or obese. This has made obesity a complex health issue to address.

The Body Mass Index, or BMI, is a very popular tool for indicating weight status in adults and in youth. Although the measure is not without its flaws or its critics, the U.S. Military uses BMI to determine eligibility for service.[21]

[21] The BMI is used as an initial screen in the U.S. Military by most Services. If a young man or woman is found to fall outside of the band for eligibility most of the Services will follow up with additional, more precise tests, to determine body composition and final eligibility status. The BMI formula displayed on the following page is for adults (over age 20). A BMI is also available for children. However, for this report, the adult BMI was used for all calculations.

The Body Mass Index is calculated as:

$$\text{BMI} = \frac{\text{Weight in Pounds}}{(\text{Height in inches})^2} \times 703$$

The BMI calculations are divided into four major categories which are displayed in the chart below.

BMI	Weight Status
Below 18.5	Underweight
18.5 – 24.9	Normal
25.0 – 29.9	Overweight
30.0 and above	Obese

The BMI has been used for a number of years by a variety of agencies that track important indicators of health for the United States. For example, results from the 1999-2000 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), using measured heights and weights, indicate that an estimated 15% of children and adolescents ages 6-19 years are overweight. This represents a 4 % increase from the overweight estimates from NHANES III (1988-94).

Prevalence of Overweight Among Children and Adolescents Ages 6-19 Years, for selected years 1963-65 through 1999-2000*

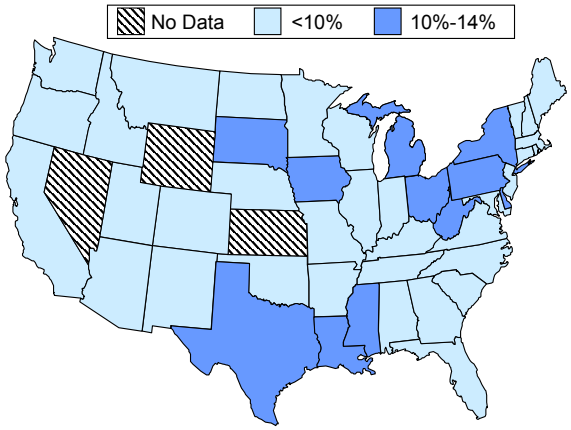
Age (years)	1963-65 1966-70** %	1971-74 %	1976-80 %	1988-94 %	1999-2000 %
6-11	4	4	7	11	15
12-19	5	6	5	11	15

*Excludes pregnant women starting with 1971-74. Pregnancy status not available for 1963-65 and 1966-70.
** Data for 1963-65 are for children 6-11 years of age; data for 1966-70 are for adolescents 12-17 years of age, not 12-19 years.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has also been tracking this indicator through their annual *Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*. The key benefit of the work done by the CDC is the methodology allows for comparisons across states with a good deal of precision. As can be seen in the figures on the next page, obesity within the United States has been growing at an epidemic rate.

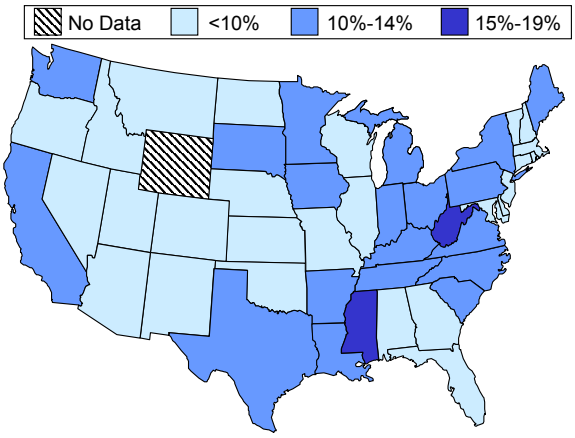
Obesity Trends: 1991

(BMI ≥ 30, for 18 – 36 Year Olds)



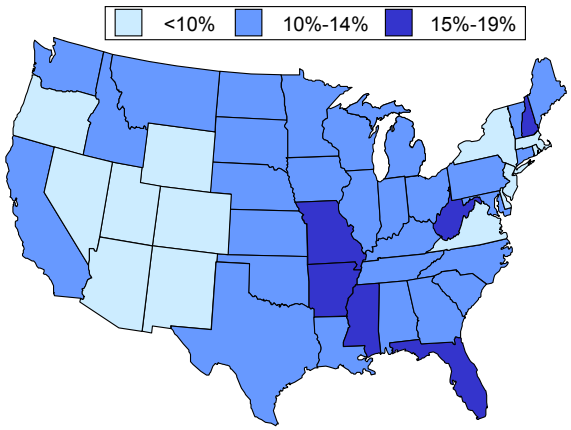
Obesity Trends: 1993

(BMI ≥ 30, for 18 – 36 Year Olds)



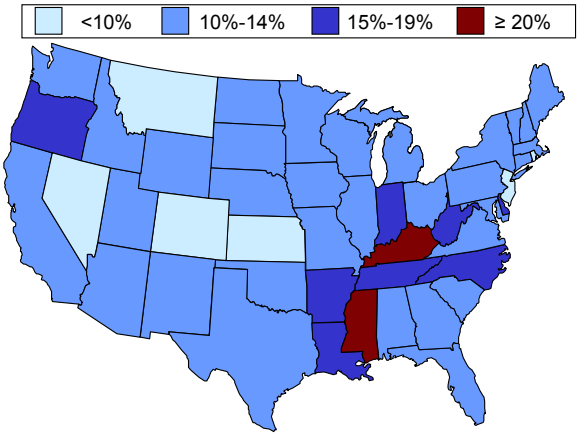
Obesity Trends: 1995

(BMI ≥ 30, for 18 – 36 Year Olds)



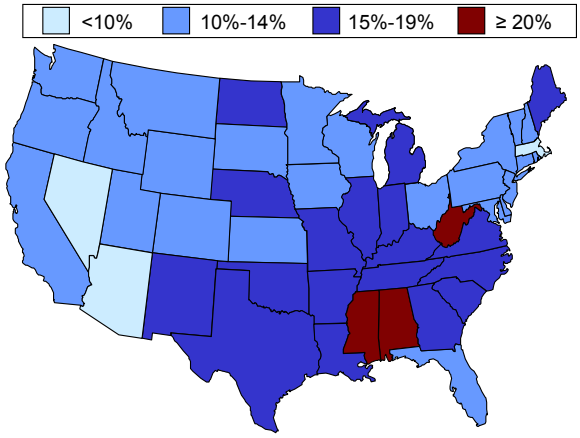
Obesity Trends: 1997

(BMI ≥ 30, for 18 – 36 Year Olds)



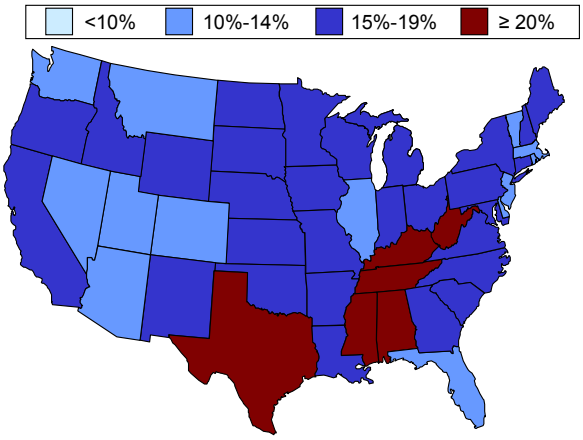
Obesity Trends: 1999

(BMI ≥ 30, for 18 – 36 Year Olds)



Obesity Trends: 2001

(BMI ≥ 30, for 18 – 36 Year Olds)



The following table displays the average height, weight, and Body Mass Index (BMI) across gender and race/ethnicity reported in the June 2003 Youth Poll.

Average Height, Weight, and Body Mass Index (BMI) by Gender and Race

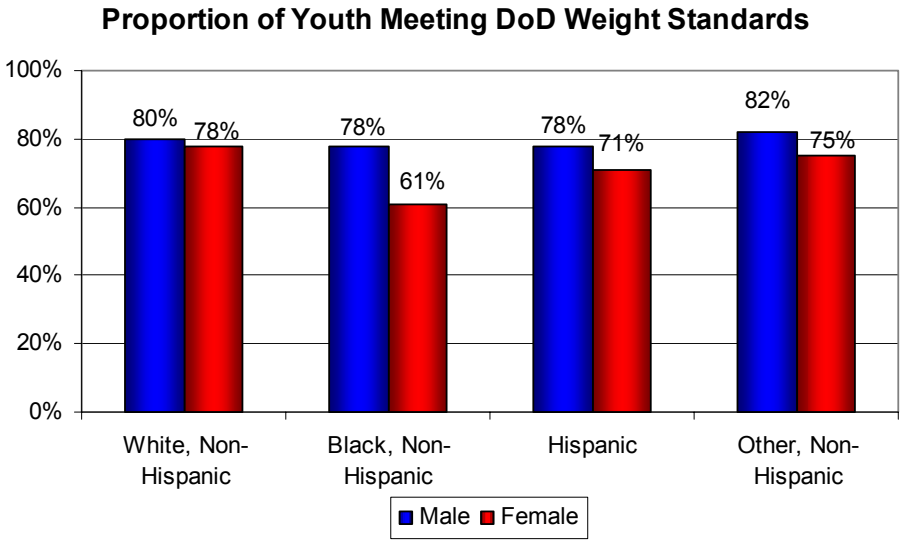
		White non-Hispanic	Black non-Hispanic	Hispanic	Other non-Hispanic	Overall
Male	Weight (lbs)	173.5	171.3	167.7	167.2	171.9
	Height (in)	70.9	69.7	69.3	69.2	70.3
	BMI	24.3	24.6	24.6	24.4	24.4
Female	Weight (lbs)	136.7	149.3	136.3	133.9	138.4
	Height (in)	65.2	64.8	63.3	64.0	64.7
	BMI	22.6	24.9	23.9	22.9	23.2

Each Service has unique weight requirements. Looking across the Services, the most conservative estimate for the number of youth currently eligible for the military based on their responses could be found by creating an index that uses the highest BMI across all categories of height. The criteria for this index are shown in the table below.

U.S. Military Minimum Weight and BMI Standards

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
58	149 (31.1)	132 (27.6)
59	151 (30.5)	134 (27.1)
60	153 (29.9)	136 (26.6)
61	155 (29.3)	138 (26.1)
62	158 (28.9)	141 (25.8)
63	160 (28.3)	142 (25.2)
64	164 (28.1)	146 (25.1)
65	169 (28.1)	150 (25.0)
66	174 (28.1)	155 (25.0)
67	179 (28.0)	160 (25.1)
68	184 (28.0)	164 (24.9)
69	189 (27.9)	169 (25.0)
70	194 (27.8)	174 (25.0)
71	199 (27.8)	179 (25.0)
72	205 (27.8)	184 (25.0)
73	211 (27.8)	189 (24.9)
74	218 (28.0)	195 (25.0)
75	224 (28.0)	200 (25.0)
76	230 (28.0)	205 (25.0)
77	236 (28.0)	211 (25.0)
78	242 (28.0)	216 (25.0)
79	248 (27.9)	222 (25.0)
80	254 (27.9)	228 (25.0)

Weight status of youth was found to be a major factor that affected the number of youth eligible for military enlistment. Based on standards detailed above, 21% of youth did not meet the weight standards for the U.S. Military. There was a difference between males (19% ineligible) and females (23% ineligible) in terms of ineligibility due to BMI; however, Blacks were significantly more likely to be ineligible (29%) than were Whites (19%) or Others (20%). As can be seen on the chart below, this effect for Blacks was primarily the result of the high rate of ineligibility for Black women (only 61% met weight standards).



Medical Conditions

In addition to weight requirements, there are numerous other medical conditions that may restrict a young person from being eligible for military service. As mentioned earlier, these restrictions are placed on applicants to ensure that all personnel are medically capable of satisfactorily completing required training and later duty assignments. Furthermore, applicants must be free of medical conditions or physical defects that may require excessive time lost from duty for necessary treatment or hospitalization, may endanger the health of others, or probably will result in separation from the military for medical unfitness.

Some of the more common medical conditions that may limit applicants' eligibility for the military, and were included in this poll, are asthma, diabetes, blood pressure and taking medication for attention, performance or behavior. These four conditions were included after a conversation with Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) medical personnel and after conducting background research examining national trends of youth medical conditions.

Asthma

Asthma is a chronic respiratory disease characterized by episodes or attacks of inflammation and narrowing of small airways in response to asthma "triggers." Asthma attacks can vary from mild to life threatening and involve shortness of breath, coughing, wheezing, chest pain or tightness, or a combination of these symptoms. Many factors can trigger an asthma attack, including allergens, infections, exercise, abrupt changes in the weather, or exposure to airway irritants, such as tobacco smoke.

Asthma's impact on health, quality of life, and the economy remain substantial. Rates of severe asthma continue to disproportionately affect poor, minority and inner city populations. For example, Blacks visit emergency departments, are hospitalized, and die at a three times higher rate from asthma than do Whites.

The number of people with asthma is dramatic. In 2001, an estimated:[22]

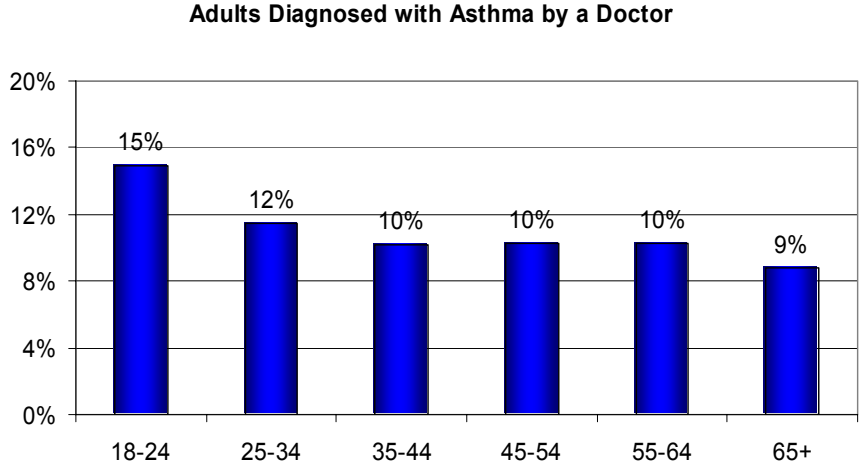
- 31.3 million people had been diagnosed with asthma during their lifetime
- 20.3 million people currently were diagnosed with asthma
- 12 million people experienced an asthma attack in the previous year

In 2000, asthma accounted for

- 10.4 million outpatient visits
- 1.8 million emergency department visits
- 465,000 hospitalizations
- 4,487 deaths

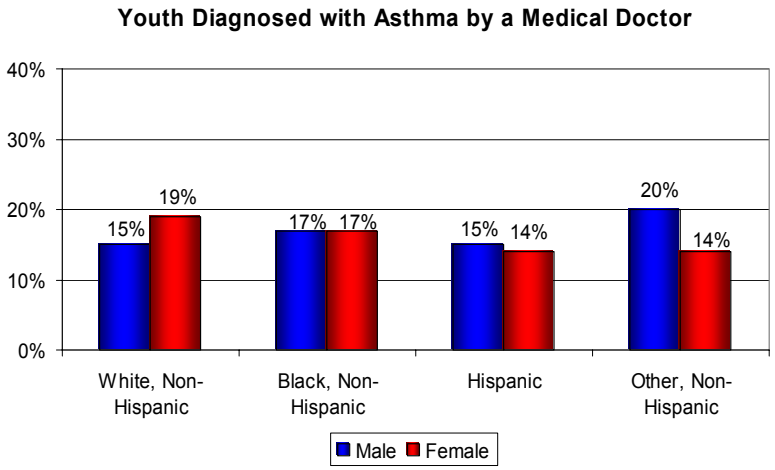
The self- or proxy-reported 12-month prevalence of asthma increased 73.9% during 1980-1996. However, the CDC has identified some problems with the measure for asthma that they had been using during that time. After the 1996 fielding, a new measure was developed that more accurately tracked asthma prevalence. However, in the most recent report by the CDC, there had not yet been a sufficient number of years with the new measure to determine whether the trends in asthma are increasing or decreasing since 1997.

Using the most recent information provided by the CDC (shown below), asthma affects youth ages 18-24 more than any other age group; affecting approximately 15% of these youth.[23]



Very similar to the findings by the CDC, the June 2003 Youth Poll found that the impact of asthma translates to about one out of six youth (17%) being ineligible for military service. Overall, there were no meaningful differences for prevalence of asthma across gender or racial/ethnic categories. The proportion of youth diagnosed with asthma ranged from 14% (Hispanic females and Other females) to 20% (Other males).

[22] CDC National Center for Health Statistics
[23] Source: Centers for Disease Control. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

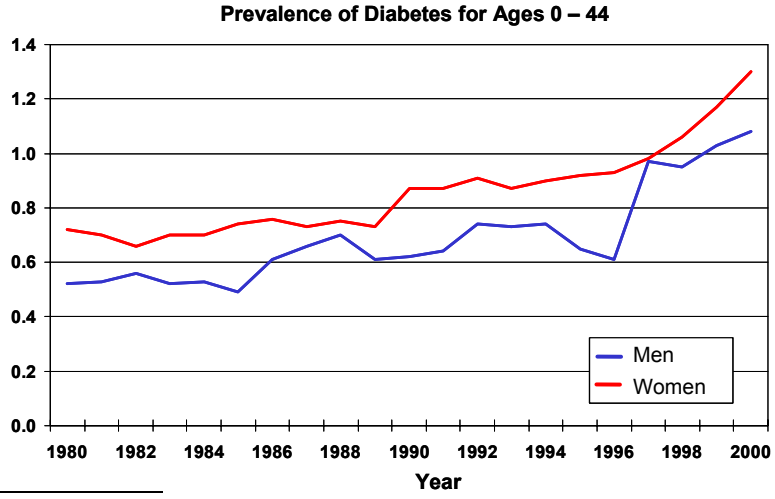


Diabetes

People with diabetes have a shortage of insulin or a decreased ability to use insulin, a hormone that allows glucose (sugar) to enter cells and be converted to energy. In uncontrolled diabetes, glucose and fats remain in the blood and, over time, damage vital organs.

Diabetes is a serious, costly disease that is on the rise. Seventeen million Americans have diabetes, and over 200,000 people die each year as a result of diabetes related complications. Diabetes can cause heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney failure, leg and foot amputations, pregnancy complications, and deaths related to flu and pneumonia. Diabetes is now the sixth leading cause of death among U.S. adults, with diagnosed diabetes increasing 49% from 1990 to 2000. The prevalence of diabetes has increased in all age groups and similar increases are expected in the next decade and beyond.

Trends show that minority populations are disproportionately affected by diabetes. Between 1980 and 2000, the age-adjusted prevalence of diagnosed diabetes was higher among Blacks than Whites and highest among Black females. Between 1997 and 2000, the age-adjusted prevalence of diagnosed diabetes for Hispanic males and females was similar to that of Black males. Between 1997 and 2000, the age-adjusted prevalence increased more than 10% among White males and Black females, while relative increases were smaller among other racial/ethnic and sex groups. The good news for military recruiting, as is shown in the chart below, is that diabetes affects only about one percent of young men and women overall.[24]



[24] Source: CDC Centers for Health Statistics

The results of the June 2003 Youth Poll again revealed very similar findings to those from the CDC. Only about one percent of youth (men and women) have been diagnosed with diabetes. The results indicate a relatively small proportion of youth who would be ineligible as a result of this disease. However, because of the increasing rate of diagnosed diabetes and its impact on health and welfare signals, the military may want to pay particular attention to trends in diabetes.

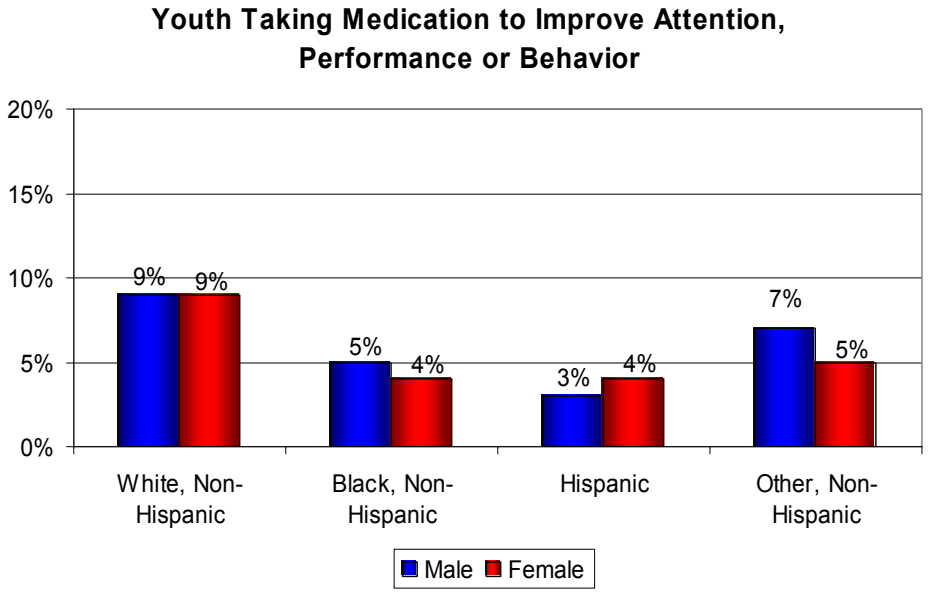
Medication for attention, performance, or behavior

In the United States, 1 in 10 children and adolescents suffer from mental disorders severe enough to cause some level of impairment. In any given year, up to three percent of children and eight percent of adolescents are affected by depression, and as many as 13% of young people experience anxiety disorders. According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH),

ADHD is the most commonly diagnosed disorder among childhood, estimated to affect three to five percent of school-age children, and occurrs three times more often in boys than in girls. On average, about one child in every classroom in the United States needs help for this disorder. Characterized by poor concentration, impulsivity, and/or hyperactivity, ADHD can create difficulties with peers and in multiple settings, such as home and school. ADHD has also been shown to have long-term adverse effects on academic performance, vocational success, and social-emotional development.

No one knows for sure whether the actual number of youth with ADHD has risen or if the increased identification and treatment seeking is due in part to greater media interest, heightened consumer awareness, and the availability of effective treatments. Regardless of the cause for the increase, it is very clear that the number of children identified with the disorder who obtain treatment has risen over the past decade.

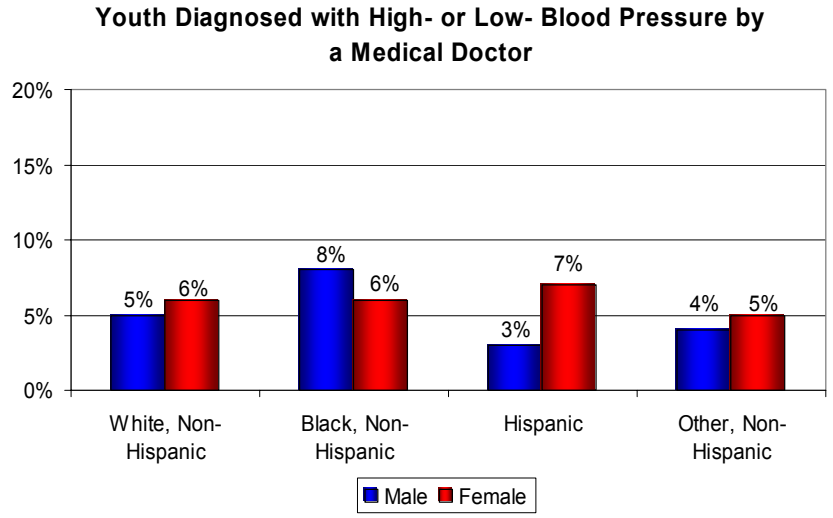
The results of the June 2003 Youth Poll show that seven percent of youth were being treated for mental disorders, and indicate that White males and females have the highest proportion of youth taking prescription medication to improve attention, performance or behavior (nine percent).



Blood Pressure

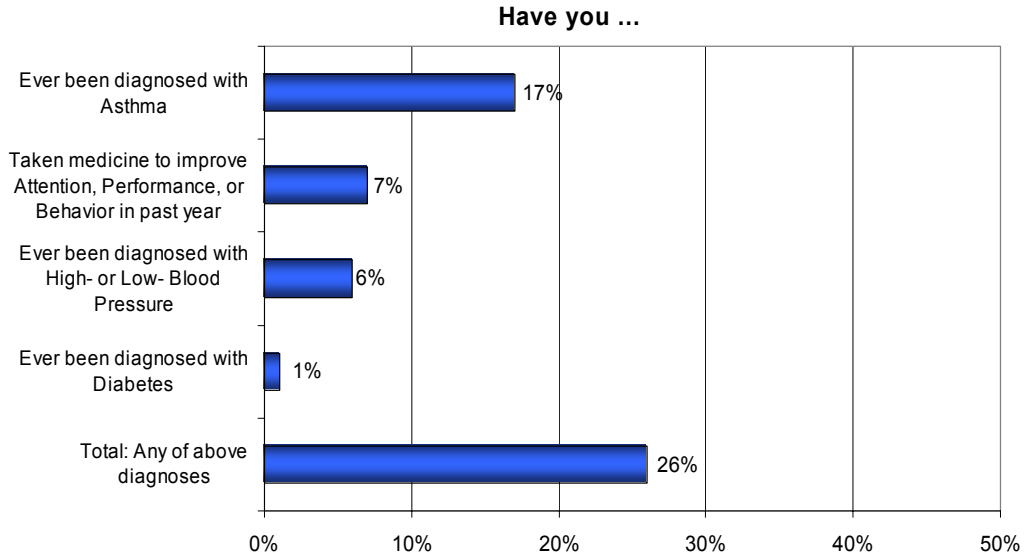
High blood pressure (HBP) is defined as systolic pressure of 140 mm Hg or higher, diastolic pressure of 90 mm Hg or higher, or the need to take blood pressure medicine. There are differences in rates of blood pressure between people of different educational and ethnic backgrounds. People with lower educational and income levels tend to have higher levels of blood pressure. The prevalence of high blood pressure among Blacks and Whites in the southeastern United States is greater, and death rates from stroke are also higher in these regions. The prevalence of hypertension in Blacks in the United States is among the highest in the world. Compared with Whites, Blacks develop HBP earlier in life and their average blood pressures are much higher. As a result, compared with Whites, Blacks have a 1.3 times greater rate of nonfatal stroke, a 1.8 times greater rate of fatal stroke, a 1.5 times greater rate of heart disease death and a 4.2 times greater rate of end-stage kidney disease.

The results of the June 2003 Youth Poll showed similar trends, with Black males having the highest proportion of youth diagnosed with irregular blood pressure (eight percent), while Hispanic males have the lowest (three percent). The overall rate of youth disqualified for irregular blood pressure (high or low) was 6%.



Medical Conditions: Summary

Results of the April 2003 Youth Pool indicated that 26% of youth had been diagnosed with a disqualifying medical condition. Seventeen percent of youth had been diagnosed with asthma, seven percent had taken prescribed medicine to improve attention, performance or behavior in the past year, six percent had been diagnosed with high or low blood pressure and one percent had been diagnosed with diabetes. The results indicate these numbers vary slightly by gender and race/ethnicity.



Youth Diagnosed by a Medical Doctor for…

		White non-Hispanic %	Black non-Hispanic %	Hispanic %	Other non-Hispanic %
Male	Asthma	15	17	15	20
	Diabetes	1	0*	0*	0
	Taken prescribed medication to improve attention, performance, or behavior	9	5	3	7
	High or low blood pressure	5	8	3	4
Female	Asthma	19	17	14	14
	Diabetes	1	1	0*	4
	Taken prescribed medication to improve attention, performance, or behavior	9	4	4	5
	High or low blood pressure	6	6	7	5

Note: < 1%

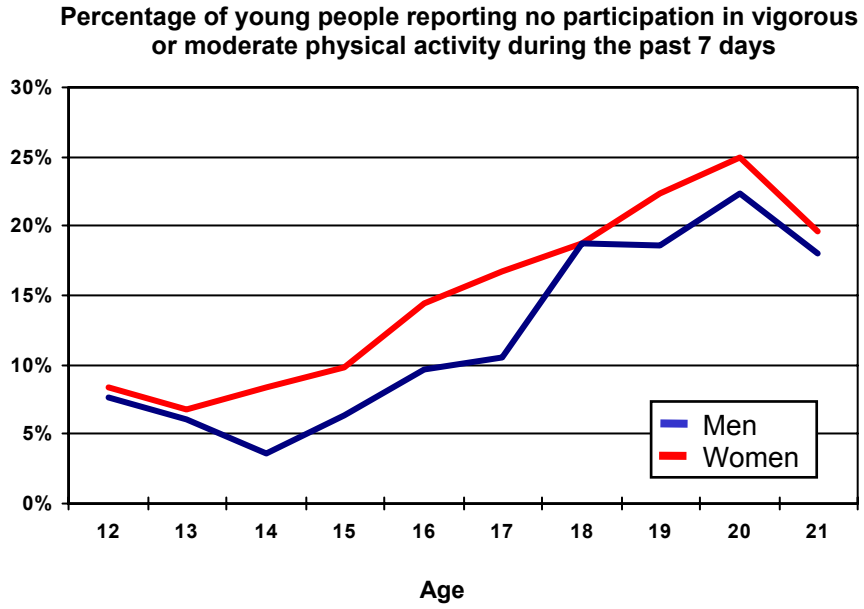
Physical Activity

At the MEPS, recruits are tested for a wide variety of medical conditions that may disqualify them from being eligible for military service. The main purpose behind these qualification standards is twofold; (1) to ensure that the people that enter the military will be capable of performing their duties (before the military invests large amounts of money into their training), and similarly, (2) to ensure that the people that enter the military will not harm themselves or others as a result of their medical conditions.

For the purpose of this poll, it was not considered realistic, nor necessarily appropriate, to ask youth if they were currently suffering from each item on the list of conditions that the MEPS classifies as disqualifying. As a proxy, it was decided to focus on certain key physical activities that all military personnel are required to perform during either their basic training or as part of their actual duty assignment. These included 1) running, 2) push-ups, 3) pull-ups, 4) sit-ups, and 5) swimming. However, it was not necessarily as important to determine whether youth engaged in these activities as it was to determine whether they had a medical condition that would prevent them from performing these key physical activities.

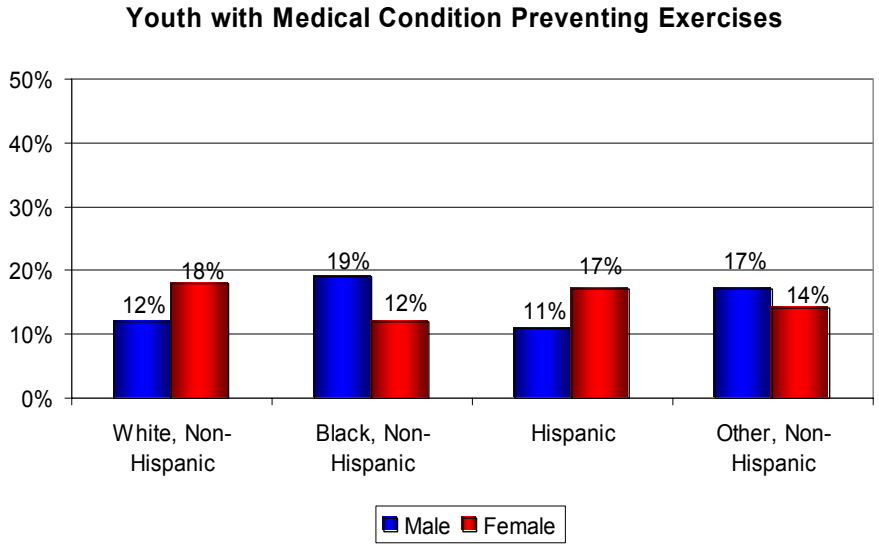
Nonetheless, national statistics do show a somewhat alarming trend regarding youth's level of physical exercise. Despite all the benefits of being physically active, most Americans are sedentary and most youth do not engage in exercise. Technology has created many time and labor saving products that require minimal physical activity (e.g., cars, elevators, computers, dishwashers, and televisions). As a result, these recent lifestyle changes have reduced the overall amount of energy expended in our daily lives. According to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, in 2000, more than 26% of adults reported that they allocated no leisure time for physical activity.

According to the CDC, among young people in grades 9-12, more than a third report that they do not regularly engage in vigorous physical activity. As shown in the graph below, the trend of inactivity worsens as youth age. Partially contributing to this growing problem is that more and more school systems are no longer requiring students to participate in physical education (PE) classes (42% of schools required daily PE in 1991; only 29% of schools required daily PE in 1999).



The results from the June 2003 Youth Poll indicate that 15% of youth had a medical condition that would prevent them from doing at least one of the five exercises mentioned. Twelve percent reported they had a condition that would prevent them from running two miles, four percent from doing push-ups, four percent from doing pull-ups, three percent from swimming, and three percent from doing sit-ups.

When observed by gender and race/ethnicity, the proportion of youth with a medical condition that would prevent them from doing these five basic exercises range from 11% (Hispanic males) to 19% (Black males).



MORAL CHARACTER
(DoD Directive 1304.26, December 21, 1993)

The DoD has designed moral standards to disqualify youth who have exhibited antisocial behavior or other traits or character that would render them unfit to associate with other military personnel. Youth with the following are disqualified from enlisting:

- Individuals under any form of judicial restraint (bond, probation, imprisonment, or parole)
- Individuals with significant criminal records (such as a felony conviction)

In addition, the June 2003 Youth Poll also included two other measures for moral ineligibility. These measures were (1) dependence on drugs or alcohol and (2) youth's ability to pass a mandotory drug test at the MEPS.

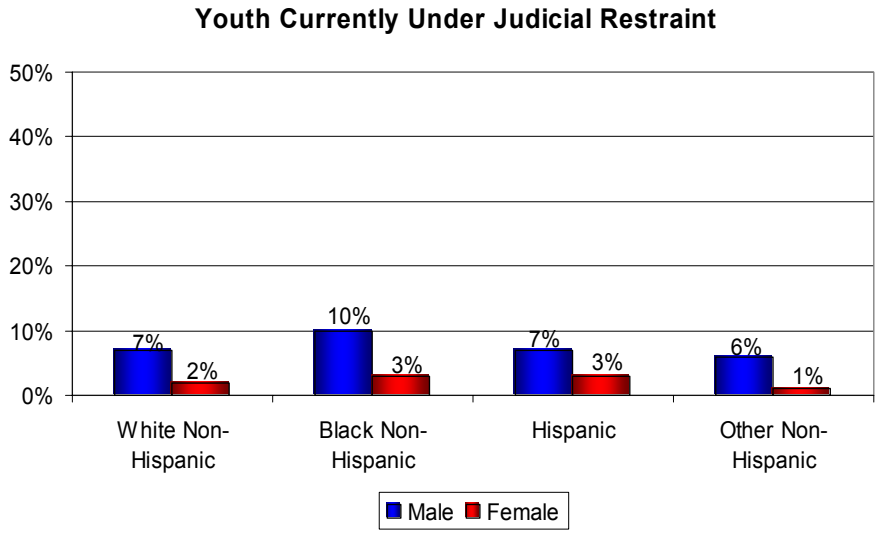
Criminal Record and Judicial Restraint
According to the 2000 Census, 1.4 million youth (under 18 years old) were arrested, a number that fell 4.8 percent from the 1999 rate. Somewhat surprising given their small relative size, youth arrests currently account for 17.1% of total arrests in the United States. Approximately 16% of all males and 21.4% of females arrested in 2000 were under the age of 18, and approximately five percent of males and 8 percent of females were under the age of 15. Of the arrested youth, 72% were White and 25% were Black.[25]

The results from the June 2003 Youth Poll indicate that 10% of youth had been convicted of at least one misdemeanor. Of those convicted, over half (57%) had been convicted of only one misdemeanor and 11% had been convicted of five or more, making them ineligible for military service. Youth may possibly enlist with a waiver if they have less than five misdemeanor convictions. Overall, one percent of youth were ineligible for military service because they had five or more misdemeanor convictions.

When respondents were asked about whether they had ever been convicted of a felony, less than three percent indicated that they had been convicted. Less than one percent had ever been convicted of more than one felony making them ineligible for the military. Those with only one felony require a waiver to enlist, so they are not necessarily ineligible.

[25] Hispanic youth were not identified in this sample (only race categories were included, not ethnicities). Numbers do not add to 100% due to rounding and exclusion of American Indian/Alaskan Native (1.2%) and Asian or Pacific Islander (1.7%)

In addition to convictions of misdemeanors and felonies, five percent of youth were currently under some form of judicial restraint, such as a bond, awaiting trial, probation, or parole. Among demographic segments, Black males had the highest proportion (10%) that was currently under judicial restraint.

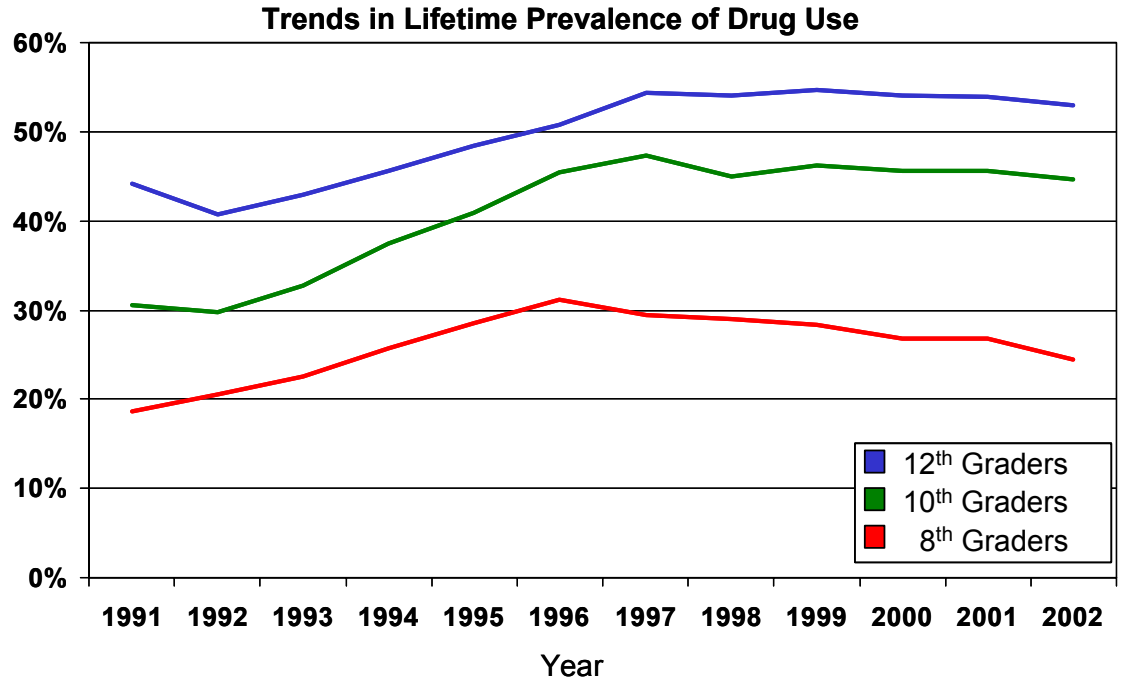


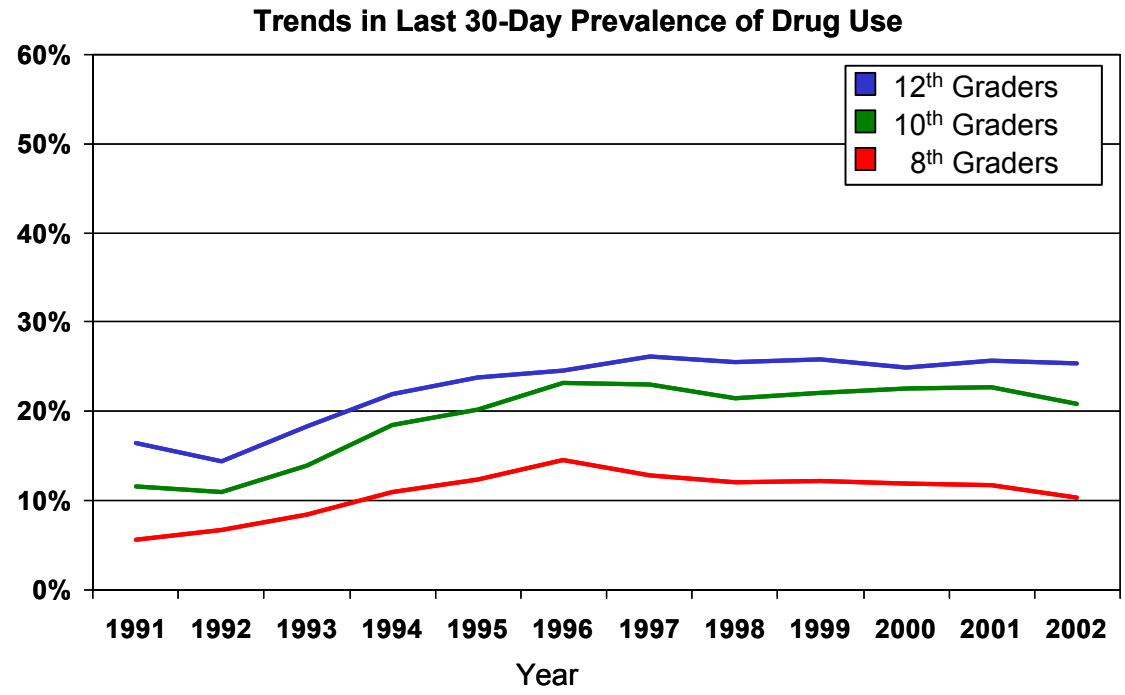
Drug Use

Nationally, drug use has declined or been stable for the past six years among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. Looking at individual grade levels and drug use, there were a few significant changes between 2001 and 2002, most of which were decreases. Looking at lifetime usage, LSD and cigarettes decreased in all grade levels. The only increases were for the use of crack cocaine in the past year by 10th graders (from 1.8% to 2.3%) and the use of sedatives in the past year by 12th graders (from 5.9% to 7%).[26]

Approximately half of 12th graders (53%) report the use of illicit drugs sometime in their lifetime, and approximately one-third (29.5%) report using illicit drugs other than marijuana. These numbers drop dramatically when asked if drugs were used in the past 30-days. A quarter (25.4%) of 12th graders reported using at least one illicit drug and 11% reported using at least one illicit drug other than marijuana in the past 30 days. Between the 2001 and 2002 graduating classes, the use of LSD and cigarettes in the past 30 days declined significantly.

[26] Monitoring the Future National Survey Results on Drug Use, University of Michigan Institute for Social Research.





Among 12th graders, the drugs they most reported using daily included marijuana (6%), alcohol (3.5% report drinking daily and 1.2% report being drunk daily) and cigarettes (16.9%). Further, 28.6 % reported that they had 5 or more drinks in a row during the past two weeks. [27]

[27] Having 5 or more drinks in a row is classified as binge drinking

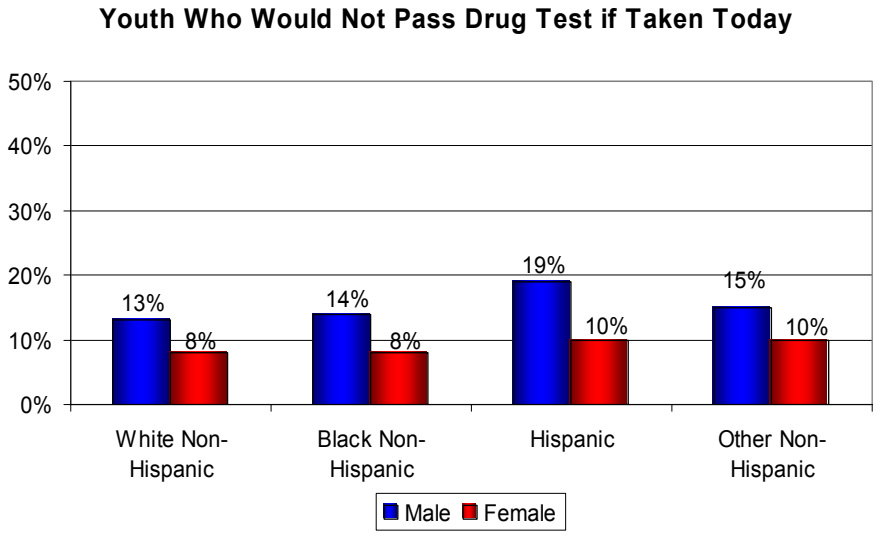
Eighth graders showed either stable levels or significant declines for all drugs at all levels of usage (lifetime, in the past year, in the past 30 days). In 2002, 24.5% of 8th graders reported using any illicit drug in their lifetime, and 13.7% reported using an illicit drug other than marijuana.

At all grade levels in 2001,[28] males used illicit drugs at a somewhat higher rate than females, while African-American youth used illicit drugs at the lowest rate. For 10th and 12th graders, White youth used illicit drugs at the highest rates, while Hispanic youth were in the middle. Hispanic youth used the most illicit drugs in the 8th grade; a trend that may not be replicated in higher grades due to high dropout rates among Hispanic youth.

Although drug usage is stable or decreasing, students still believe that drugs such as marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes are easy to get. Forty-seven percent of 8th graders, 76% of 10th graders, and 87% of 12th graders reported that it is "fairly easy" or "very easy" to get marijuana. The perception of availability for alcohol and cigarettes is overwhelmingly high at all grade levels, but has decreased for 8th and 10th graders in the past year. Students believe it is easy to obtain alcohol, as 68% of 8th graders, 85% of 10th graders, and 95% of 12th graders believe that it is fairly or very easy to get.

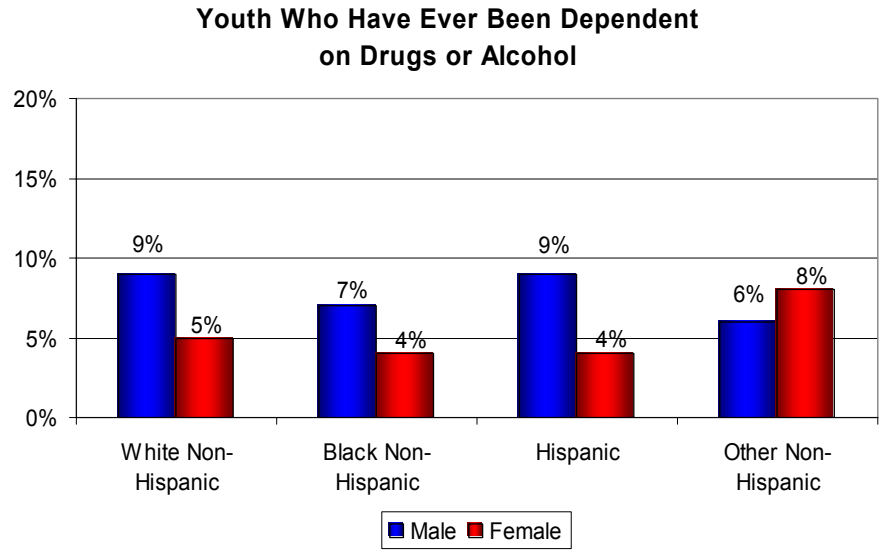
In line with many of these findings, about 12% of youth in the June 2003 Youth Poll reported that they did not think they would pass a drug test if they took one today. Furthermore, seven percent reported that they have been dependent on drugs or alcohol. This level of dependency is substantial given that the age range for this poll is only 16-21.

Ranging from a low of 8% of Black females to a high of 19% of Hispanic males, a significantly higher proportion of male youth than females reported they could not pass a drug test today.[29]



[28] 2002 data by subgroup was not yet reported by June 3, 2003
[29] $t = 3.19$, $p < .05$

When asked if they had ever been dependent on drugs or alcohol, seven percent reported that they had been dependent. Overall, a higher proportion of males (9%) indicated a dependence on drugs or alcohol than did females (5%). [30]



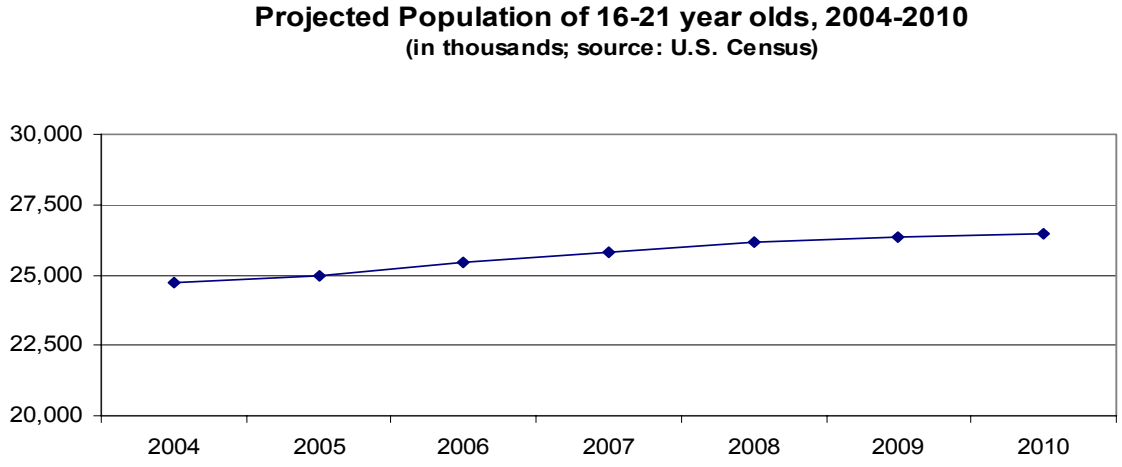
[30] $t = 3.54$, $p < .05$

DEMOGRAPHICS
(DoD Directives 1304.26, December 21, 1993)

Gender, Age, and Racial/Ethnic Composition
Gender, race/ethnicity, age, geographical region, and other demographic variables play a significant role in comprising the supply of potential enlistees. Not all military jobs or units are open to women, particularly ground combat units in the Army and the Marine Corps. Furthermore, women historically do not have the same propensity to enlist as men. Further, the Department of Defense has always desired reasonable representation of all racial and ethnic groups, although it does not impose any type of arbitrary targets or quotas. Since different racial and ethnic groups can have different rates of qualifying characteristics and different propensities to enlist, a goal of equal representation creates further constraints on the supply of qualified youth. Military standards also impose limitations on the age range of recruits to those between the ages of 17 and 35. However, the individual Services impose more strict limitations on age in some circumstances and historically greater than 80% of military enlistees have been younger than 24.

With recent global events making further draw-downs relatively unlikely in the near future, the U.S. military will need to carefully watch the changing demographic characteristics of the youth population in order to maintain desired staffing levels and representative demographic mix.

Based on U.S. Census projections displayed in the following tables, the number of male and female youth between the ages of 16 to 21 is expected to grow approximately eleven percent between now (current U.S. population of 16 to 21 year olds: 23.9 million) and July 2010 (projected U.S. population of 16-21 year olds: approximately 26.5 million), with the Black and Hispanic populations growing at a faster rate than Whites. These trends are displayed in the charts below.



Projections of the Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for 16-21 Year Olds in the U. S. (U.S. Census Bureau)
(Estimates in thousands; middle series projections)

1-Jul-2004	Hispanic			White non-Hispanic			Black non-Hispanic			Total
Age	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	*(includes other)*
16	632	328	304	2,608	1,343	1,265	619	317	302	4,075
17	631	329	302	2,656	1,371	1,285	614	315	299	4,113
18	625	324	300	2,624	1,348	1,276	591	300	291	4,040
19	655	340	315	2,774	1,422	1,351	619	312	307	4,262
20	647	337	310	2,667	1,369	1,298	588	295	292	4,115
21	648	337	311	2,658	1,364	1,294	581	292	289	4,108
Totals	3,838	1,995	1,842	15,987	8,217	7,769	3,612	1,831	1,780	24,713

1-Jul-2010	Hispanic			White non-Hispanic			Black non-Hispanic			Total
Age	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	*(includes other)*
16	788	408	380	2,529	1,303	1,227	616	317	299	4,191
17	808	420	388	2,628	1,357	1,270	652	336	316	4,349
18	806	416	390	2,653	1,359	1,294	655	333	322	4,361
19	830	429	402	2,855	1,463	1,392	700	353	347	4,650
20	789	408	381	2,865	1,471	1,394	688	347	342	4,592
21	735	381	354	2,694	1,381	1,313	662	334	329	4,336
Totals	4,756	2,462	2,295	16,224	8,334	7,890	3,973	2,020	1,955	26,479

Citizenship

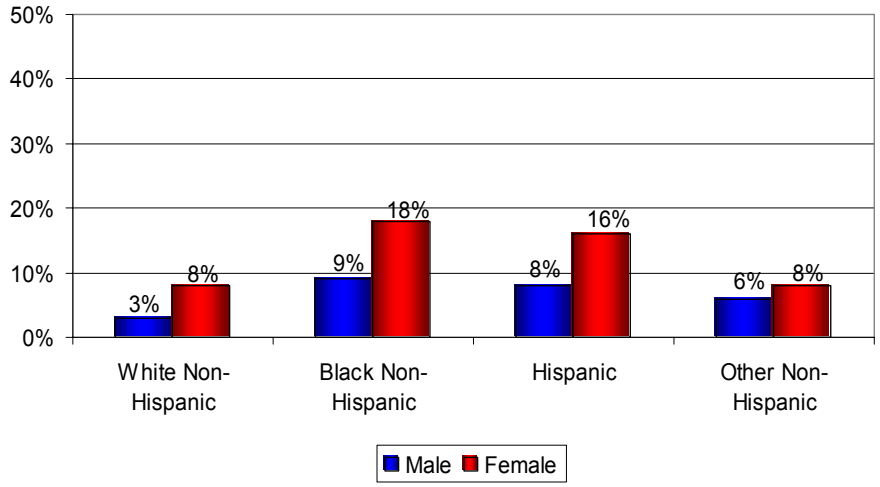
The U.S. military requires that all of its members be either citizens or legal permenant residents. The results of the June 2003 Youth Poll show that 5% of youth were not U.S. citizens at the time of the poll. Further, although a 1% population growth is expected, it is also expected that a disproportionate amount of this growth will occur among the subpopulation of non-U.S. citizens.

Dependents

The military limits the number of dependents that its new members may have at the time of enlistment. Specifically, a person would be ineligible if they were married with more than 2 dependents under 18 or if they were single with custody of a dependent under 18. The military has a unique way of classifying dependents. For this poll, it was decided not to attempt to explain the military's definition to respondents but only to consider marital status and the number of children they had.

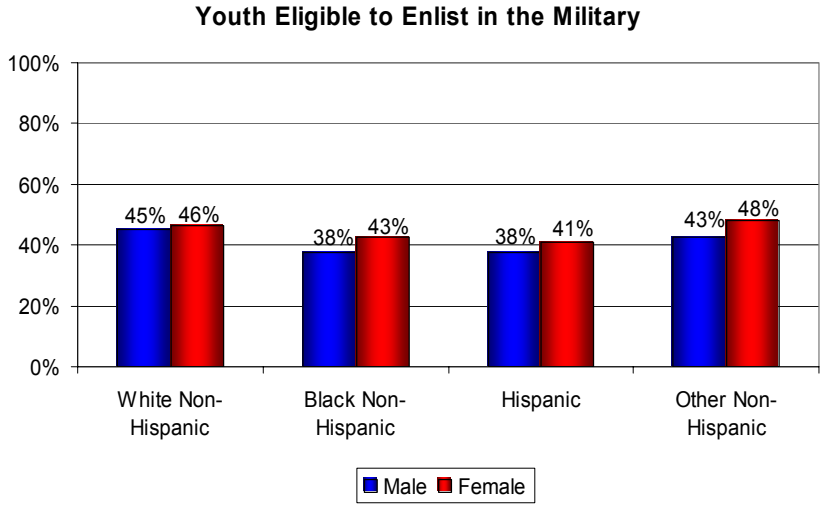
Eight percent were ineligible for service as a result of marital status and dependents. This proportion was driven almost solely by those youth who were single parents. Youth who were female, older, minorities, not enrolled in school, and had less educated parents were more likely to be ineligible for dependent reasons than were other youth.

Youth Ineligible Because of Number of Dependents

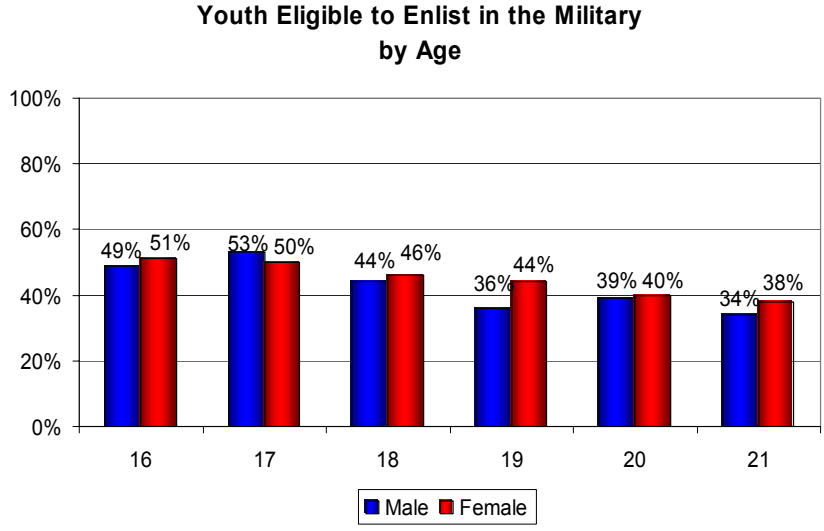


SUMMARY – YOUTH QUALIFICATIONS

The purpose of this section was to provide a picture of the qualifications of American youth for meeting military enlistment standards. Overall, only 42% of youth met all the physical, medical, moral, and dependency enlistment standards. There were no statisitical differences for eligibility between males and females (males: 43% eligible; females: 42% eligibile). Among the racial/ethnic subgroups, Whites had a significantly higher proportion eligible (45%) than Blacks (38%) or Hispanics (37%).



Further, as youth age, their likelihood of being ineligible increases.[31] As seen below, both male (34%) and female (36%) youth are the least likely to be eligible at age 21. As the military continues to focus attention on recruiting markets beyond the traditional 17 or 18 year old high school graduates (i.e., college drop-outs, community college graduates), trends such as these will become increasingly important to include as part of the planning process.



[31] Logistic regression, dependent variable is military eligibility and independent variable is age. t = -4.88, p < .05 and B = -0.13.

Analysis of the youth market indicates that an extremely large portion (58%) of the youth population would be ineligible for service if they attempted to begin the enlistment process. Using the above estimation for eligibility and the current population estimate of youth age 16 to 21, only about 5.2 million males and 4.9 million females in this age category would be eligible. Specifically, the U.S. Military faces challenges in several key qualification areas:

- Education: Although high school graduation rates are not specifically used to estimate eligibility in this report, Defense Guidance mandates that at least 90% of non-prior service accessions have a high school diploma. Given this goal, it is somewhat troubling that only 79% of youth between the ages of 18 and 21 that were not enrolled in school had a high school diploma. The majority of the remainder earned a GED or had stopped going to school without any type of high school diploma or completion certificate.

- Aptitude: Also not used to estimate eligibility in this report, Defense Guidance suggests that at least 60 percent of accessions in each Service should fall in Category I-IIIA (in the upper half) on the AFQT. Past research has found that variables such as parents education, high school mathematics and science courses taken and enrollement in a college preparatory high school program are positively related to performance on this examination. The good news is that students' overall performances on standardized tests, such as the NAEP, have been gradually increasing. Also, more youth have parents with at least some college education, and more youth are taking advanced science and mathematics courses than ever before.

  However, the bad news is that, according to NAEP trend data, students are still not performing, above a basic level. In 2000, 66% of students were performing at or above a basic level, however only 27% of students were performing at or above a proficient level. More troubling than this however, is the gap that still exists between minorities and Whites. Although the gap is closing, Whites still outperform both Blacks and Hispanics on these tests by a substantial margin, have more educated parents, have a higher proportion enrolled in college prepartory high school programs, and take a greater number of advanced mathematics and science courses.

- Obesity: The overweight-obesity epidemic is a major concern for our country with very good reason. Using the most lenient weight standards across the four Services, 21% of youth would not be eligible for military service. Blacks were more likely to be ineligible than were Whites and Others. Greater than 10% of youth age 16 – 21 would be considered clinically obese using the BMI and CDC standards. The military needs to pay special attention to the growing trend of obesity, particularly among youth, as some suggest that the proportion of obese youth will only continue to increase.

- Medical requirements: Overall, 26% of youth would be ineligible for military service because they have been medically diagnosed with asthma, diabetes, high- or low-blood pressure, or have taken prescribed medication to improve performance, attention, or behavior. Among these conditions, asthma was the condition for which the greatest number of youth were disqualified.

- Physical requirements: Overall, 15% reported that they had some type of medical condition that prevents them from doing basic physical activities (such as running, push-ups, pull-ups, swimming, or sit-ups). This creates a concern for military staffing

requirements. To complete basic military training or to effectively perform many job duties, it is essential that military members are physically capable of performing, at a minimum, these types of activities. This 15% of youth represents a sizable portion of the youth population that would likely not be capable of completing basic training, or successfully passing the physical testing that is conducted at the MEPS as part of the recruitment process.

- Moral requirements: Six percent of youth were ineligible for the military for moral reasons. One percent of youth had been convicted of five or more misdemeanors, one percent of youth had been convicted of more than one felony, and five percent were currently under judicial restraint (e.g., bond, probation, parole).

- Drug and Alcohol use/abuse: Overall, 17% of youth were ineligible for the military because of drug and alcohol use. As part of the enlistment process, youth are asked about their past use of drugs and alcohol and must pass a mandotory drug test. With this in mind, it is somewhat alarming that a full 12% of youth reported that if they were required to take a drug test today they would not pass. Further, seven percent of youth reported that they had at one point in time been either physically or psychologically dependent on drugs or alcohol.

- Dependents: Eight percent of youth were ineligible for service because they were currently either a single parent or they were married with more than two children.

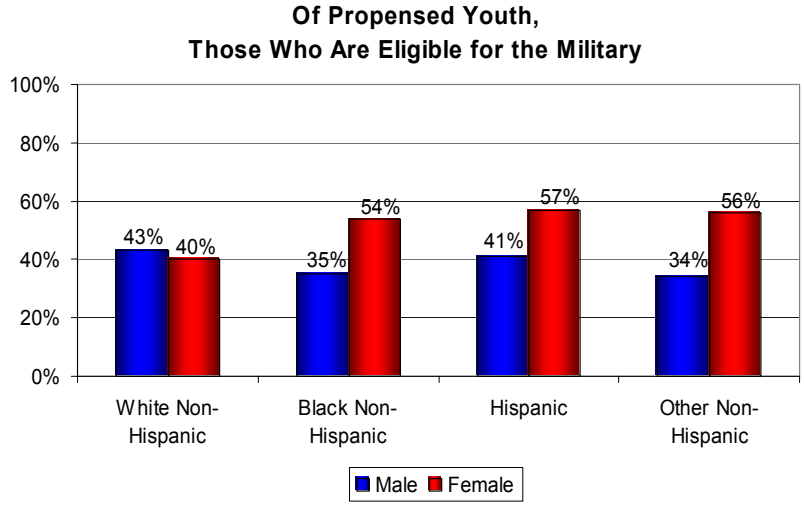
Youth Ineligible for the Military Because of:

	Total %	White non-Hispanic %		Black non-Hispanic %		Hispanic %		Other non-Hispanic %	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
All Reasons	***58***	55	56	62	62	62	64	57	53
Drugs	***17***	19	15	18	11	26	13	18	16
Legal	***6***	8	2	12	3	9	3	6	4
Weight (BMI)	***21***	19	20	21	35	20	27	18	23
Doctor Diagnosed Condition	***26***	25	28	25	24	19	24	27	24
Physical (Exercise)	***15***	12	18	19	12	11	17	17	14
Dependent	***8***	3	8	9	18	8	16	6	8

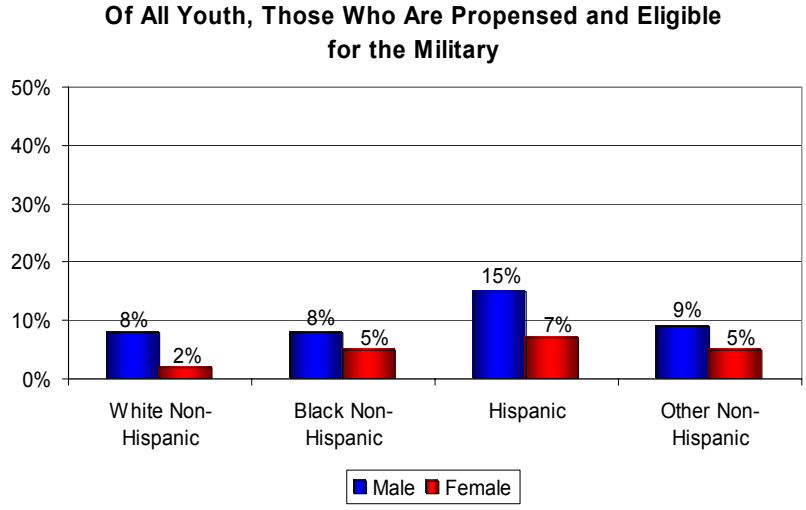
SECTION V. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PROPENSED POPULATION

The previous section provided an estimate of the proportion of youth age 16 – 21 who met the enlistment standards set by the U.S. Military. In an effort to provide a more accurate measure of the supply of potential enlistees, this section provides a detailed examination of the eligibility of those youth who are propensed toward military service. The proportion of propensed **and** eligible youth provides a more accurate measure of the supply of potential enlistees. Further, it is our hope that this estimation will serve as a better indicator of the difficulty recruiters should expect in the upcoming years in meeting their recruiting goals.

The measure of propensity used for this section is general military propensity. The results show that there was no differences in general military propensity for the eligible and ineligible population of youth. However, this means that more than half of the propensed population would be ineligible for military service for at least one reason (57%). This translates into only about 1.6 million youth who are eligible and propensed toward service in the military.

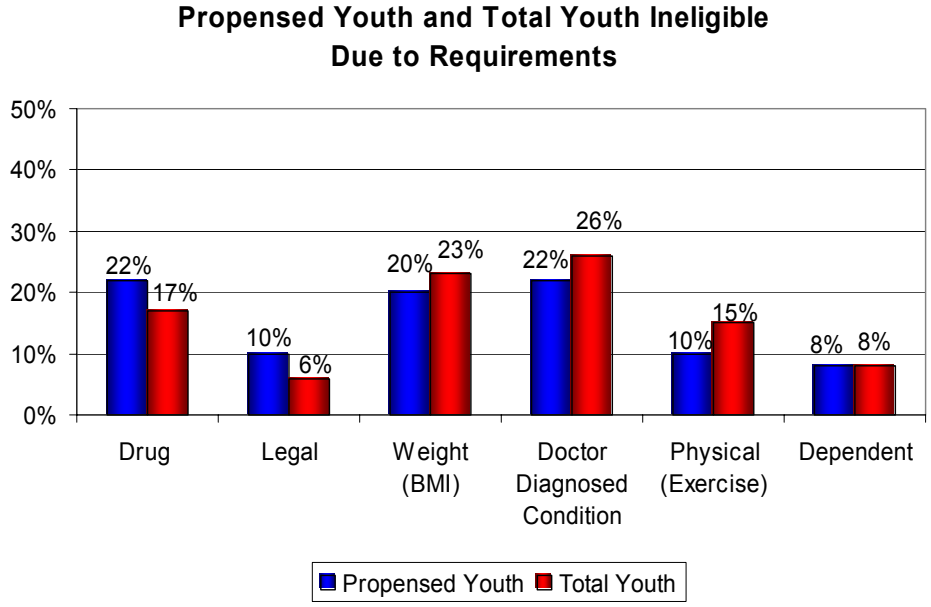


Looking across the racial and ethnic subgroups, Hispanics have the largest proportion of youth who are both eligible and propensed (males: 15%, females: 7%). It is also important to note that when looking at the total youth population, a significantly larger proportion of Black males were propensed (23%) than White males (18%). However, when examining both general military propensity and eligibility together, this difference disappears.



INELIGIBLE PROPENSED POPULATION

There was no difference in the rate of ineligibility for propensed (56%) versus non-propensed youth (56%). Twenty-two percent of propensed youth had a doctor-diagnosed condition (i.e., asthma, diabetes, prescription drugs for attention, performance or behavior, and/or high/low blood pressure), compared to 26% of the overall youth population. One out of five propensed youth (22%) would not have passed a drug test or had been dependent on drugs or alcohol, compared to 17% of the youth population overall.



Gender and Race

Overall, propensed Black and Other males had the highest proportion of ineligible youth (65% and 66%, respectively), while propensed Hispanic females had the lowest proportion of ineligible youth (43%).

Specific segments of note:

- Among propensed White youth, the proportion of ineligible males (57%) and females (60%) were nearly identical, but across minorities, a higher proportion of propensed males did not meet eligibility standards.
- Twenty-four percent of propensed White females had a medical condition that prevented them from doing basic exercises (compared to 10% overall) and 34% had been diagnosed with one of the disqualifying medical conditions that were asked in this poll (22% overall).
- Twenty-seven percent of propensed Black males had been diagnosed by a doctor with asthma, diabetes, high or low blood pressure, or had been prescribed medicine to improve behavior, attention, or mood. Another 24% would be ineligible for drug related reasons.
- Twenty-seven percent of propensed Hispanic males did not meet weight standards, compared to 16% of the population overall.

Of Youth Who Are Propensed, Those Ineligible for the Military Because of:

	Total %	White non-Hispanic %		Black non-Hispanic %		Hispanic %		Other non-Hispanic %	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
All Reasons	***57***	57	60	65	46	59	43	66	44
Drugs	***22***	27	16	24	7	26	11	13	12
Legal	***10***	13	6	15	2	9	0	5	6
Weight (BMI)	***20***	12	27	15	37	27	23	21	18
Doctor Diagnosed Condition	***22***	23	34	27	18	13	14	30	15
Physical (Exercise)	***10***	6	24	6	14	9	13	18	14
Dependent	***8***	8	5	12	12	7	3	21	3

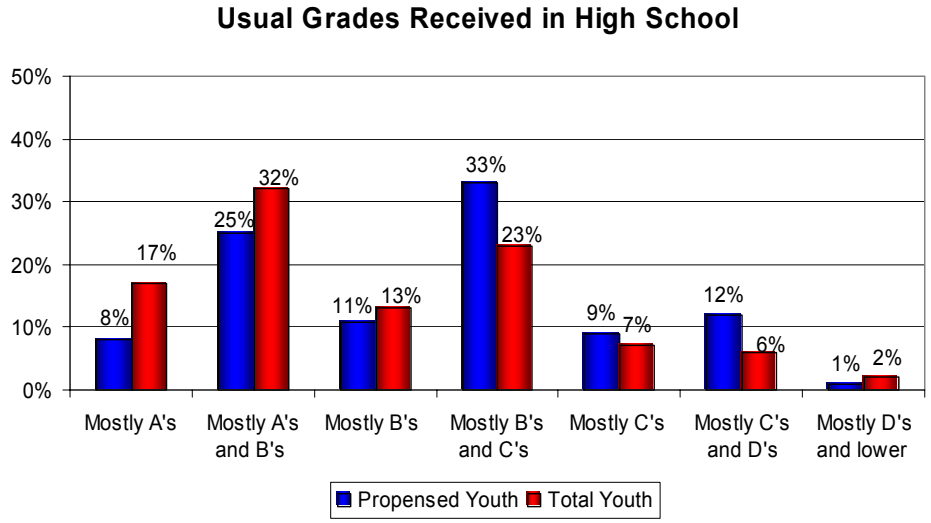
PROPENSED YOUTH MEETING OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Up to this point this section has explicitly considered only drug, legal, physical, medical and dependent requirements in the analysis, but as explored in the previous section, propensed youth must also meet other requirements in order to be either eligible or to meet Defense Guidance standards.

Education

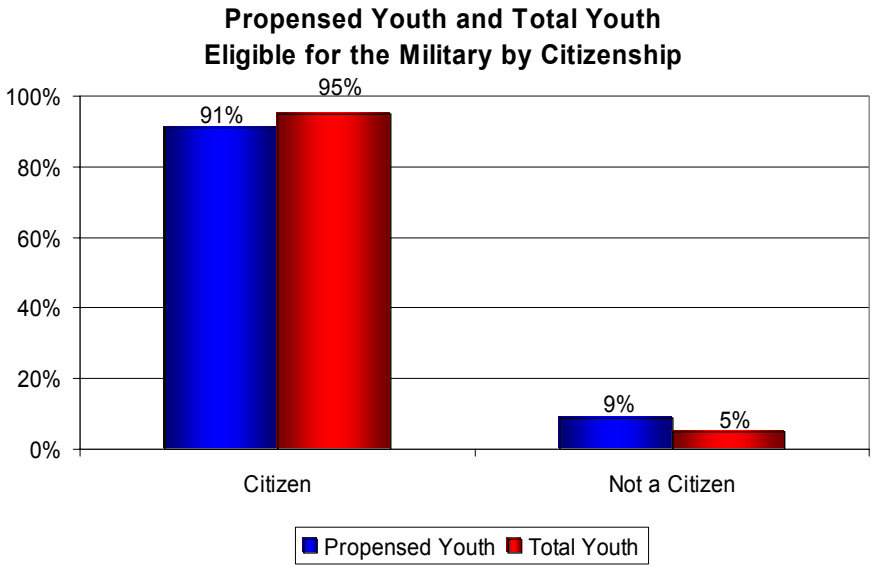
Defense Guidance indicates that at least 90% of non-prior service accessions must have a high school diploma. The results of this study found that of the youth not enrolled in school, 77% obtained a high school diploma. Among propensed youth however, of those not currently enrolled in school, only 56% had a high school diploma.

Defense Guidane also indicates rates of eligibility based on scores on the entrance exam (AFQT). Grades were compared between the propensed youth population and the total youth population. Propensed youth were less likely to receive As and Bs and more likely to receive C's and D's.



Citizenship

Five percent of the total youth population were not U.S. citizens at the time of this poll. However, eight percent of propensed youth were not citizens at the time of the poll. This difference primarily occurred among propensed Hispanic youth.



PROPENSITY, ELIGIBILITY, AND RECRUITING GOALS

To this point, we have discussed eligibility and general military propensity in terms of percentages. However, this study was designed so that these estimates, after weighting, could be generalized to the total population of youth aged 16-21. As such, it is possible to use these proportions to create an estimate of the size of the (1) eligible and (2) propensed and eligible youth populations.

In contrast to what has been done up to this point, this section will provide a more Service-specific estimation of the proportion and number of eligible youth. Specifically, in calculating the number of eligible youth, we used the weight restrictions for each individual Service. Combining this information with the other disqualifications that are general across the four Services (i.e., legal, dependents, drugs, etc.) we estimate the proportion of youth eligible for the military broken out by race/ethnicity and gender for each Service. Multiplying this by the total population size of males and females age 16-21, we can create an estimate for the number of male and female youth that are eligible for each Service.

Following this, we will then provide an estimate for the proportion of eligible males and females that are propensed for each Service. Then multiplying this number by the number of eligible males and females, we will provide an estimate for the size of the youth population that are not only eligible but also propensed toward serving in each of the four active-duty Services.

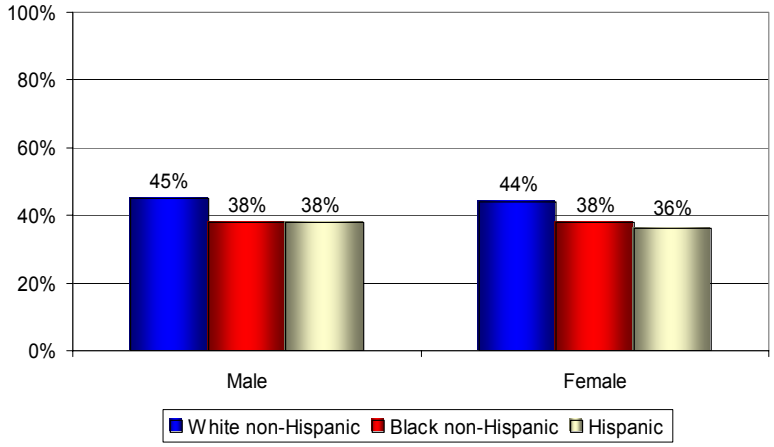
These estimates are provided as a useful index as they are directly comparable with each Service's non-prior service (NPS) accession goals.

U.S. Military Overall

As reported in Section IV, 44% of youth (males 45%; females 44%) - or 10.1 million youth - meet the physical, medical (including the weight restrictions displayed on the table below), moral, and dependency enlistment standards, with White youth more likely to meet requirements than Black and Hispanic youth.

Of the 10.1 million youth, 15% are propensed for military service, creating a propensed-eligible population of 1.6 million youth. These youth provide, in addition to the youth who recruiters are able to convert from the non-propensed population, must be used to meet the overall FY03 NPS goal of 178,408 for the four active duty services and 69,941 for the Reserves.

Youth Eligible for the U.S. Military



Maximum Allowable Weight – Minimum DoD Standards

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
58	149 (31.1)	132 (27.6)
59	151 (30.5)	134 (27.1)
60	153 (29.9)	136 (26.6)
61	155 (29.3)	138 (26.1)
62	158 (28.9)	141 (25.8)
63	160 (28.3)	142 (25.2)
64	164 (28.1)	146 (25.1)
65	169 (28.1)	150 (25.0)
66	174 (28.1)	155 (25.0)
67	179 (28.0)	160 (25.1)
68	184 (28.0)	164 (24.9)
69	189 (27.9)	169 (25.0)

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
70	194 (27.8)	174 (25.0)
71	199 (27.8)	179 (25.0)
72	205 (27.8)	184 (25.0)
73	211 (27.8)	189 (24.9)
74	218 (28.0)	195 (25.0)
75	224 (28.0)	200 (25.0)
76	230 (28.0)	205 (25.0)
77	236 (28.0)	211 (25.0)
78	242 (28.0)	216 (25.0)
79	248 (27.9)	222 (25.0)
80	254 (27.9)	228 (25.0)

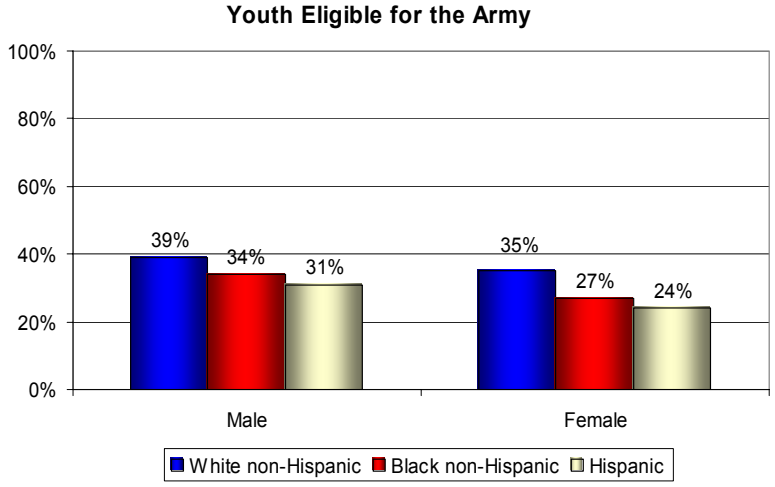
	Male	Female	Total
16 – 21 Population	12,188,678	11,738,995	23,927,673
Eligible Population	5,212,252	4,930,935	10,143,187
Propensed Percentage (Eligible only)	21.2%	9.2%	15.4%
Propensed & Eligible Population	1,104,561	455,672	1,560,234

FYO3 NPS Goal **178,408**
FYO3 NPS Reserve Goal **69,941**

Army

Using the Army's weight restrictions (see table below) combined with the other disqualifications that are general across the four Services (i.e., legal, dependents, drugs, etc.), 8.3 million youth (35%) in the U.S. are eligible to serve in the Army. White youth were more likely to meet eligibility requirements, while Hispanic youth were the least.

Of the 8.3 million youth eligible to serve in the Army, 8.3% are propensed, or approximately 690,200 youth. Thus, while the Army has the largest FY03 NPS goal (69,407) across the Services, it also has the smallest pool of propensed and eligible youth to draw from among the Services.



Maximum Allowable Weight – Army

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
58	---	109 (22.8)
59	---	113 (22.8)
60	132 (25.8)	116 (22.7)
61	136 (25.7)	120 (22.7)
62	141 (25.8)	125 (22.9)
63	145 (25.7)	129 (22.8)
64	150 (25.7)	133 (22.8)
65	155 (25.8)	137 (22.8)
66	160 (25.8)	141 (22.8)
67	165 (25.8)	145 (22.7)
68	170 (25.8)	150 (22.8)
69	175 (25.8)	154 (22.7)

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
70	180 (25.8)	159 (22.8)
71	185 (25.8)	163 (22.7)
72	190 (25.8)	167 (22.6)
73	195 (25.7)	172 (22.7)
74	201 (25.8)	178 (22.9)
75	206 (25.7)	183 (22.9)
76	212 (25.8)	189 (23.0)
77	218 (25.8)	193 (22.9)
78	223 (25.8)	198 (22.9)
79	229 (25.8)	203 (22.9)
80	234 (25.7)	208 (22.8)

Army Regulation 600-9. The Army Weight Control Program. (Age range: 17-20).

	Male	Female	Total
16 – 21 Population	12,188,678	11,738,995	23,927,673
Eligible Population	4,497,359	3,770,427	8,267,786
Propensed Percentage (Eligible only)	11.3%	4.9%	8.3%
Propensed & Eligible Population	507,153	183,047	690,200

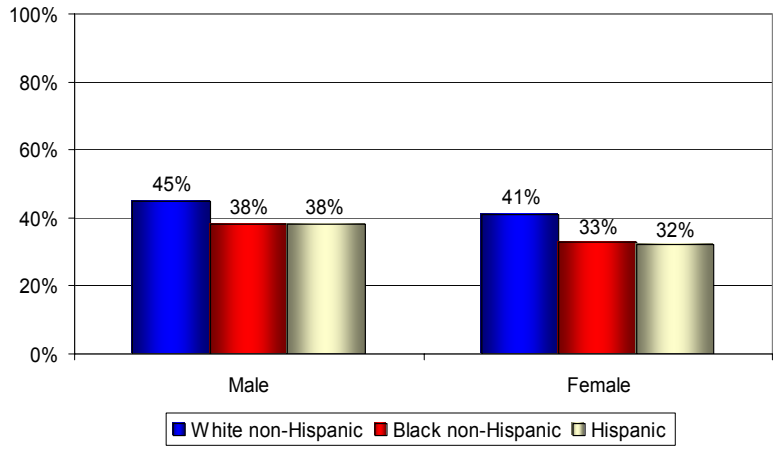
FYO3 NPS Goal **69,407**

Navy

Using the Navy's weight restrictions (see table below), 9.7 million youth (41%) in the U.S. are eligible to serve in the Navy, highest among the Services. White youth were more likely to meet eligibility requirements than Black and Hispanic youth.

While the Navy has the highest number of eligible youth, only 7.3% of these eligible youth were also propensed (707,934 youth). The Navy must draw heavily from this population to meet their FY03 NPS goal of 40,330.

Youth Eligible for the Navy



Maximum Allowable Weight – Navy

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
58	---	126 (26.3)
59	---	128 (25.9)
60	153 (29.9)	130 (25.4)
61	155 (29.3)	132 (24.9)
62	158 (28.9)	134 (24.5)
63	160 (28.3)	136 (24.1)
64	164 (28.1)	139 (23.9)
65	169 (28.1)	144 (24.0)
66	174 (28.1)	148 (23.9)
67	179 (28.0)	152 (23.8)
68	184 (28.0)	156 (23.7)
69	189 (27.9)	161 (23.8)

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
70	194 (27.8)	165 (23.7)
71	199 (27.8)	169 (23.6)
72	205 (27.8)	174 (23.6)
73	211 (27.8)	179 (23.6)
74	218 (28.0)	185 (23.8)
75	224 (28.0)	190 (23.7)
76	230 (28.0)	196 (23.9)
77	236 (28.0)	201 (23.8)
78	242 (28.0)	206 (23.8)
79	248 (27.9)	211 (23.8)
80	254 (27.9)	216 (23.7)

Navy News Service – 13 July 1994. Improvements to Physical Readiness Program Announced.

	Male	Female	Total
16 – 21 Population	12,188,678	11,738,995	23,927,673
Eligible Population	5,212,252	4,489,256	9,701,508
Propensed Percentage (Eligible only)	9.6%	4.6%	7.3%
Propensed & Eligible Population	502,220	205,714	707,934

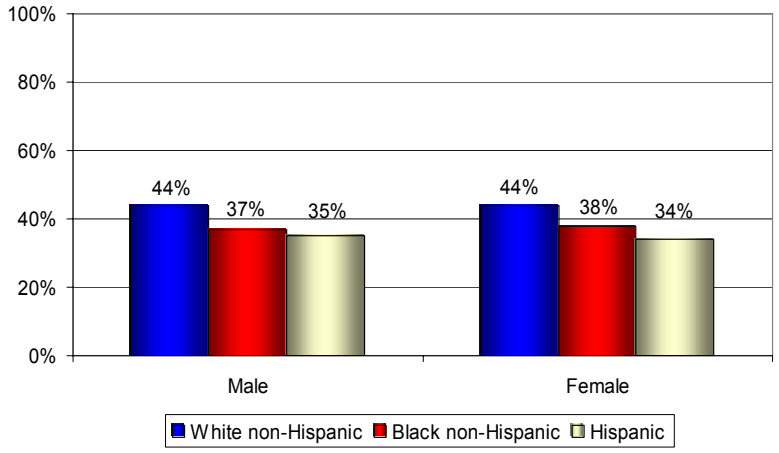
FYO3 NPS Goal **40,330**

Marine Corps

Ten million youth (42%) are eligible to serve in the Marine Corps. As the case with the other Services, White youth were more likely to meet eligibility requirements than Black and Hispanic youth.

Of the 10 million eligible youth, 7.8% are propensed (772,774 youth). The Marine Corps must draw heavily from this population to meet their FY03 NPS goal of 32,751, smallest among the Services. However, with the Marine Corps heavy reliance on male youth, the "actual" eligible and propensed population it has to draw from is much smaller than the 772, 774 estimated.

Youth Eligible for the Marine Corps



Maximum Allowable Weight – Marine Corps

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
58	132 (27.6)	120 (25.1)
59	136 (27.5)	124 (25.0)
60	141 (27.5)	128 (25.0)
61	146 (27.6)	132 (24.9)
62	150 (27.4)	137 (25.1)
63	155 (27.5)	141 (25.0)
64	160 (27.5)	146 (25.1)
65	165 (27.5)	150 (25.0)
66	170 (27.4)	155 (25.0)
67	176 (27.6)	160 (25.1)
68	181 (27.5)	164 (24.9)
69	186 (27.5)	169 (25.0)

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
70	192 (27.5)	174 (25.0)
71	197 (27.5)	179 (25.0)
72	203 (27.5)	184 (25.0)
73	208 (27.4)	189 (24.9)
74	214 (27.5)	195 (25.0)
75	220 (27.5)	200 (25.0)
76	226 (27.5)	205 (25.0)
77	232 (27.5)	211 (25.0)
78	238 (27.5)	216 (25.0)
79	244 (27.5)	222 (25.0)
80	250 (27.5)	228 (25.0)

MCO P6100.12. Marine Corps Physical Fitness Test and Body Composition Program Manual.

	Male	Female	Total
16 – 21 Population	12,188,678	11,738,995	23,927,673
Eligible Population	5,101,048	4,859,985	9,961,033
Propensed Percentage (Eligible only)	10.3%	5.1%	7.8%
Propensed & Eligible Population	525,178	247,596	772,774

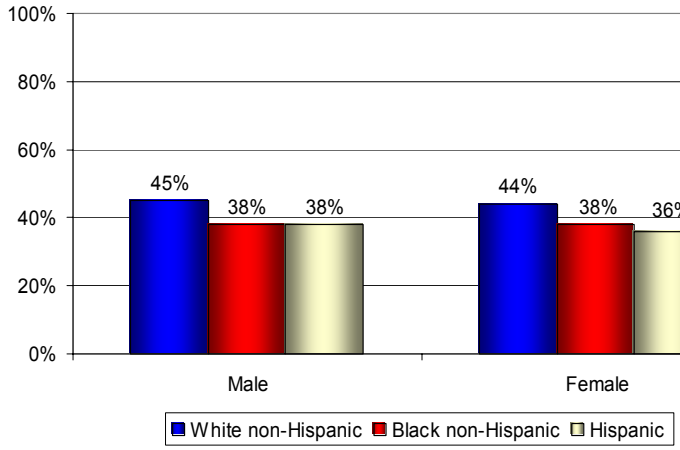
FYO3 NPS Goal **32,751**

Air Force

Using the Air Force's weight restrictions (see table below), 10.1 million youth (42%) in the U.S. are eligible to serve in the Air Force, second highest among the Services (Navy is highest). Again, White youth were more likely to meet eligibility requirements than Black and Hispanic youth.

With 9.8% of these eligible youth being propensed, the Air Force has the highest number (990.480) of eligible and propensed youth to recruit from to meet their FY03 NPS goal of 36,000.

Youth Eligible for the Air Force



Maximum Allowable Weight – Air Force

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
58	149 (31.1)	132 (27.6)
59	151 (30.5)	134 (27.1)
60	153 (29.9)	136 (26.6)
61	155 (29.3)	138 (26.1)
62	158 (28.9)	141 (25.8)
63	160 (28.3)	142 (25.2)
64	164 (28.1)	146 (25.1)
65	169 (28.1)	150 (25.0)
66	174 (28.1)	155 (25.0)
67	179 (28.0)	159 (24.9)
68	184 (28.0)	164 (24.9)
69	189 (27.9)	168 (24.8)

Height (inches)	Men (BMI)	Women (BMI)
70	194 (27.8)	173 (24.8)
71	199 (27.8)	177 (24.7)
72	205 (27.8)	182 (24.7)
73	211 (27.8)	188 (24.8)
74	218 (28.0)	194 (24.9)
75	224 (28.0)	199 (24.9)
76	230 (28.0)	205 (25.0)
77	236 (28.0)	210 (24.9)
78	242 (28.0)	215 (24.8)
79	248 (27.9)	221 (24.9)
80	254 (27.9)	226 (24.8)

www.airforce.com: Height, Weight and Measurement Standards for the U.S. Air Force

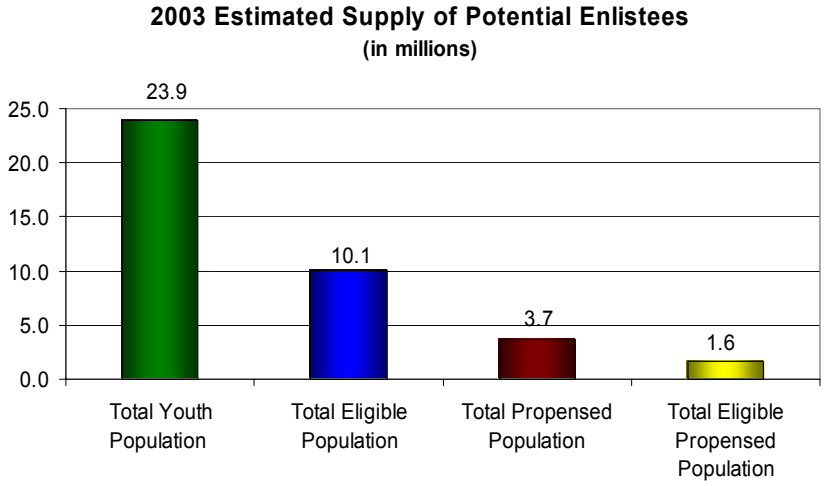
	Male	Female	Total
16 – 21 Population	12,188,678	11,738,995	23,927,673
Eligible Population	5,212,252	4,907,613	10,119,865
Propensed Percentage (Eligible only)	13.1%	6.3%	9.8%
Propensed & Eligible Population	681,968	308,512	990,480

FYO3 NPS Goal **36,000**

SUMMARY - QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PROPENSED POPULATION

In an attempt to provide a more accurate picture of the supply of potential enlistees, analyses of the youth population must go beyond propensity to include estimates of quality in conjunction with interest. The results of this study reveal that the number of propensed youth alone is not a completely accurate gauge of the potential pool of recruitable youth.

The challenge therefore facing the military goes beyond propensity. Of the 23.9 million youth between the ages of 16-21 in the U.S., only 15% are propensed toward serving in the military. This number is substantially reduced once eligibility is also considered, as only 6.5%, or 1.6 million youth, are eligible as well as propensed.



Propensity and eligibility varied across the active-duty Services. Using service-specific weight restriction in conjunction with the other disqualifications that are consistent across the four Services (e.g., legal, dependents, drugs), the number of propensed and eligible youth was calculated for each Service. The Army – with the largest FY03 NPS goal – had the smallest pool of propensed and eligible youth (690,200) to draw from. The Air Force had the largest number of propensed and eligible youth (990,480). Despite having stricter weight requirements than the other Services, the Marine Corps had the second largest number of propensed and eligible youth (772,774) followed by the Navy (707,934).

SECTION VI. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The June 2003 Youth Poll marks the fifth wave of the DoD Youth Polling effort. The results from this poll provide insight into the youth population by answering four primary research questions:

What is the propensity of youth to enlist in the military?
The overall general military propensity of youth has not changed significantly since the last measurement. However, some changes were observed within subgroups. Males' propensity for serving in the military in general was 22%, an increase of three points from that measured in November 2002. Among females, propensity for serving in the military in general was eight percent (the same as November 2002). Males' reserve composite propensity was 18%, a drop of two percentage points from that measured in November 2002 (ns). Among females, reserve composite propensity was nine percent, a one-percentage point increase from that measured in November 2002 (ns).

With regard to males' likelihood to serve in the individual military branches, propensity levels are relatively similar across the Services: 14% of males are likely to join the Air Force, 14% the Army, 12% the Marine Corps, 11% the Navy, and seven percent the Coast Guard. Similarly, 14% are propensed for the Reserves and 10% are propensed for the National Guard.

The differences in propensity across the Services for females is narrower, with propensity ranging from four percent for the Coast Guard, five percent for the Marine Corps, and six percent for the Air Force, Army and Navy. Seven percent are propensed for the Reserves and five percent for the National Guard.

Additional differences in propensity can be found across other key demographic characteristics. One important area that stands out and needs to be highlighted is for race/ethnicity. In general, Hispanics have the highest level of propensity followed by Blacks and then Whites. However, it is worth taking note of the propensity trends among Black males for the four DoD Services. Specifically, Black male propensity for the Army (11%) compares unfavorably with Black male propensity for the Air Force (21%) and to a lesser extent the Marine Corps (16%) and Navy (16%).[32]

What are youth's attitudes toward the military?
Overall, youth had a positive view of the military, giving it an average rating of 7.8 on a 10-point scale. Special Operations and the Air Force were viewed the most positively by youth, the Coast Guard was viewed the least positively, and the Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Reserves and National Guard were clustered in the middle. The favorability for the military and each of the Services and Components increased from the November 2002 observations.

Similar to results from the November 2002 Youth Poll, youth did not feel that they had a great deal of knowledge about the military, as evidenced by a mean score of 5.6 on a 10-point scale. Only 4% considered themselves to be "extremely knowledgeable," while 6% thought they were "not at all knowledgeable."

[32] This poll represents the first time that findings examining racial/ethnic differences among the Services have been conducted in the DoD Youth Polls. Past Youth Polls have been unable to examine these differences due to cost and sample size restrictions. Future research is needed that supports these findings and tracks trends before definitive conclusions should be drawn.

In general, American youth had positive perceptions of the amount of pay military personnel receive for the jobs they perform. In fact, 54% of youth reported that they felt individuals were just as likely to have a good paying job in the military as they were in a civilian job. Youth's outlook on the economy was also optimistic with nearly half (47%) reporting the economy will be better four years from now.

Not surprisingly, the war has had an effect on youth's likelihood to join the military. When asked about the war in Iraq, 52% of youth reported that they were less likely to join the military as a result. One third 33% reported that the war made them more likely to join the military. However, it is important to note that the youth that reported this tended also to be those who reported being propensed in the first place. The converse holds true for those who reported that the war had made them less likely to join. As we observed in past Youth Polls, it is likely safer to assume that the current military action has polarized youth's attitudes toward the military than it is to assume they have changed attitudes. Regardless of the effect the war has had on likelihood to join the military, 78% of youth reported that they support U.S. military troops being in Iraq and 71% said the US was justified in its decision to go to war.

What proportion of American youth meets the physical, medical, moral and other enlistment standards set by the U.S. military?

Overall, 42% of youth meet the physical, medical, moral, and dependency enlistment standards. There were no statisitical differences for eligibility between males and females (males: 43% eligible; females: 42% eligibile). Among the racial/ethnic subgroups, Whites had a significantly higher proportion eligible (45%) than Blacks (38%) or Hispanics (37%). Perhaps not surprisingly, it was found that as youth age, their likelihood of being ineligible decreases.[33]

Analysis of the eligible youth market indicates that an extremely large portion (58%) of the youth population would have been ineligible for service if they began the enlistment process on the day they were surveyed. Using the above estimations for eligibility and the current population estimate of youth age 16 to 21, only about 5.2 million males and 4.9 million females in this age category would be eligible. Specifically, the U.S. military faces challenges in several key qualification areas:

- Education: Although high school graduation rates were not specifically used to estimate eligibility in this report, Defense Guidance mandates that at least 90% of non-prior service accessions have a high school diploma. Given this goal, it is somewhat troubling that only 79% of youth between the ages of 18 and 21 who were not enrolled in school had a high school diploma. The majority of the remainder earned a GED or had stopped going to school without any type of high school diploma or completion certificate.

- Aptitude: Also not used to estimate eligibility in this report, Defense Guidance suggests that at least 60 percent of accessions in each Service should fall in Category I-IIIA (in the upper half) on the AFQT. Past research has found that variables such as parents education, high school mathematics and science courses taken and enrollement in a college preparatory high school program are all positively related to performance on this examination. Overall performances on standardized tests, such as the NAEP, have been

[33] Logistic regression, dependent variable is military eligibility and independent variable is age. $t = -4.88$, $p < .05$ and $B = -0.13$.

gradually increasing. Also, more youth have parents with at least some college education, and more youth are taking advanced science and mathematics courses than ever before.

However, according to NAEP trend data, students are still not performing above a basic level. In 2000, 66% of students were performing at or above a basic level, however only 27% of students were performing at or above a proficient level. A significant gap still exists between minorities and Whites in this area. Although the gap is closing, Whites still outperform both Blacks and Hispanics on these tests by a substantial margin, have more educated parents, have a higher proportion enrolled in college prepartory high school programs, and take a greater number of advanced mathematics and science courses.

- Obesity: The overweight-obesity 'epidemic' is a major concern for our country with very good reason. Using the most lenient weight standards across the four Services, 21% of youth would be ineligible for military service. Blacks were more likely to be ineligible than were Whites and youth in the Other race/ethnic category. It was very troubling to observe that more than 10% of youth age 16 to 21 would be considered clinically obese using the BMI and CDC standards.

- Medical requirements: Overall, 26% of youth would be ineligible for military service because they have been medically diagnosed with asthma, diabetes, high- or low-blood pressure, or have taken prescribed medication to improve performance, attention, or behavior. Among these conditions, asthma was the condition that impacted the greatest number of youth.

- Physical requirements: Overall, 15% of youth reported that they had some type of medical condition that prevents them from doing basic physical activities (such as running, push-ups, pull-ups, swimming, or sit-ups). This creates a concern for military staffing requirements. To complete basic military training or to effectively perform many job duties, it is essential that military members are physically capable of performing, at a minimum, these types of activities. This 15% of youth represents a sizable portion who would likely not be capable of completing basic training, or successfully passing the physical testing that is conducted at the MEPS as part of the recruitment process.

- Moral requirements: Six percent of youth were ineligible for the military for moral reasons. One percent of youth had been convicted of five or more misdemeanors, one percent of youth had been convicted of more than one felony, and five percent were currently under judicial restraint (e.g., bond, probation, parole).

- Drug and Alcohol use/abuse: Overall 17% of youth were ineligible for the military because of drug and alcohol use. As part of the enlistment process, youth are asked about their past use of drugs and alcohol and must pass a mandotory drug test. Twelve percent of youth reported that if they were required to take a drug test today they would not pass. Further, seven percent of youth reported that they had at one point in time been either physically or psychologically dependent on drugs or alcohol.

- Dependents: Eight percent of youth were ineligible for service because they were currently either a single parent or they were married with more than two children.

What proportion of propensed youth meets the physical, medical, moral and other enlistment standards set by the U.S. military?

The challenge facing the military goes beyond propensity. Of the 23.9 million youth in the U.S. between the ages of 16-21, 15% are propensed toward serving in the military, but the actual supply of propensed youth meeting physcial, medical, and moral requirements falls to 1.6 million, or 6.5% of the youth population.

Propensity and eligibility varied across the active-duty Services. Using service-specific weight restriction in conjunction with the other disqualifications across the four Services (e.g., legal, dependents, drugs and alcohol, etc.), the number of propensed and eligible youth was calculated for each Service. The Army – with the largest FY03 NPS goal – had the smallest pool of propensed and eligible youth (690,200) to draw from. The Air Force had the largest number of propensed and eligible youth (990,480). Despite having stricter weight requirements than the other Services, the Marine Corps had the second largest number of propensed and eligible youth (772,774) followed by the Navy (707,934).

CONCLUSIONS

Propensity remains relatively steady, with Hispanics demonstrating the highest level of propensity followed by Blacks and then Whites. Most youth do not believe that they will be serving in the military, as less than one out of five reported that they would join the military in the next few years. While almost three quarters of youth (71%) gave at least some consideration to joining the military before participating in this poll, most decided for one reason or another that either school or work was a better option. Meanwhile, favorability and knowledge have risen from the last measure in November 2002.

Youth also indicate positive perceptions of the military in terms of the amount of pay military personnel receive. Youth also indicate that they are optimistic about the future of the economy. The effect of the war in Iraq on propensity appears to hold steady. This in consistent with the finding that youth generally view the U.S. efforts in Iraq positively, as 78% of youth reported that they support U.S. military troops being in Iraq and 71% that they believe the U.S. was justified in its decision to go to war.

Based on self-report, more than half (58%) of youth ages 16 to 21 are ineligible for the military due to drug, dependents, moral or medical reasons. 45% of youth would be disqualified from the military because of a medical diagnosis, condition or being overweight. As the military continues to focus attention on recruiting markets beyond the traditional 17 or 18 year old high school graduates (i.e., college drop-outs, community college graduates), eligibility will become increasingly important to include as part of the planning process, as older youth are more likely to be ineligibe and unpropensed for military service. The military needs to pay special attention to health issues that negatively affect eligibility as rates of obesity and diabetes are expected to continue to rise while rates of exercise continue to decline.

In addition to providing important information on the status of youth propensity and attitudes about the military, the results of the June 2003 Youth Poll illustrate the contrast between the impact that possible changes in enlistment standards would have on recruiting efforts (i.e., lower enlistment standards, more liberal waiver policies for certain standards) versus the impact of efforts aimed at changing the hearts and minds of youth to increase their propensity to enlist.

Services must share the propensed and eligible pool as about 1/3 of the youth who report being propensed for one Service report being propensed for multiple Services. However, changes in the eligibility and quality of the population need to be examined in relation to changes in the total size of the recruiting population, which experts agree will grow by about 5.8% between 2005 and 2010.

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Appendix A

Data Collection Procedures and Sampling

Project Overview

This research marks the Department of Defense's (DoD) fifth poll conducted among youth. The purpose underlying the research was to expand the Department's understanding of this critical market, specifically, their attitudes about the military, their likelihood to join and their eligibility for military service.

The target population for June 2003 Youth Poll was youth between the ages of 16 and 21 who were not currently serving nor had ever served in the U.S. military. A total of 3,077 interviews were conducted through computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI) from April 24 to June 8, 2003. The interview averaged 20 minutes in length. Final data were weighted by gender, age, race/ethnicity and education to reflect this population.

Technical Details

Design Requirements

The youth poll sampling frame was defined as those persons residing in the 50 states and the District of Columbia who are between the ages of 16 and 21, who had never served in the military, were not in a military delayed entry program (DEP) or one of the service academies and were not enrolled in any postsecondary Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) programs.

Sample Design

Sample Stratification

For the DoD Youth Poll, an important goal was to produce reliable estimates for racial and ethnic subgroups, specifically Whites, Blacks and Hispanics. Blacks and Hispanics are important for analytical reasons but constitute a small proportion of the total population and are dispersed throughout the country. As a result, the expected sample yield using a simple random digital dialing procedure with a sample size of 3,000 was expected to be too small to support making inferences for the subgroups at the desired level of precision. Because these subgroups are a small percentage of the population and geographically dispersed, and no single list of all the members of the subgroup is available, a simple random digit dial study was considered inadequate.

With a primary restriction in the design of the DoD Youth Poll being cost, stratified random sampling was selected as the best method. When a study involves sampling of a rare population, as shown by Waksberg (1973)[34] , stratification can produce a significant reduction in the level of screening and cost when (a) a high percentage of the rare population can be identified and stratified for oversampling, and when (b) these strata contain a small part of the total population (or contain a substantial portion of the rare population).

The approach that was taken involved stratifying telephone exchanges by concentration of the rare population, and over-sampling the strata with high concentrations. Under this scheme, auxiliary information was used to classify telephone exchanges (or banks of telephone numbers) by the proportion of members of the groups residing in these exchanges. After classifying the exchanges into strata, the telephone numbers in the exchanges with the higher proportion of rare members

[34] Waksberg, J. (1973). The effect of stratification with differential sampling rates on attributes of subsets of the population. Pp. 429-434 in *Proceedings of the Social Statistics Section.* Washington, DC: American Statistical Association.

were sampled at a higher rate than the numbers in the other strata. If the data used to stratify the numbers is accurate, then the telephone numbers in the exchanges sampled at higher rates would be more likely to result in interviews with members of the rare subgroup. This procedure has been used in numerous past RDD surveys to improve the precision of estimates of African Americans and Hispanics.

This option however places increased attention on the sample design. Prior to data collection, the exchanges were listed according to the density concentration of the small domains to identify cut-off points. These cut-points were then used to determine the optimal stratification with the highest yield and minimal increase in design effect. The optimal cut-off point for this poll was calculated at 30%.

Calculating the optimal over-sampling level was the first step. Assuming a single cost function in which the total cost of interviewing n_i units within stratum i, $i = 1, 2$ is given by:

$$C = (r_1 n_1 + r_2 n_2)c_1 + (n_1 + n_2)c_2 \qquad (1)$$

where n_i is the sample size in stratum i, r_i is the average amount of screening required to locate one member of the rare group in stratum i, c_1 is the average cost of a screening call, c_2 is the average cost of interviewing one member, and C is the total cost. If we minimize the sampling variance subject to a fixed cost, we obtain the optimum allocation sample sizes. The ratio of sample sizes is given by:

$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} = \frac{\sigma_1 N_1}{\sigma_2 N_2} \sqrt{\frac{r_2 + \frac{c_2}{c_1}}{r_1 + \frac{c_2}{c_1}}} \qquad (2)$$

where N_i is the population of the rare group in stratum i.

The optimal allocation was determined to be .5519 random samples drawn from Stratum 1 (strata with < 30 Black or Hispanic households) for every 1 random sample drawn from Stratum 2 (strata with > 30 Black or Hispanic households).

Sample Selection

After the allocation of the sample, two methods of systematic sample selection are available. Using a Random A methodology, the list frame is all possible 10-digit telephone numbers in blocks with one or more listed telephone numbers. From this frame, telephone numbers serving the sample area are selected with equal probability. Using a Random B methodology, telephone numbers serving the sample area are selected with probability equal to the number of listed telephone numbers in each working block. Blocks with no listed numbers have zero probability of selection in both methodologies.

Random A samples were used for this poll because they typically provide samples with better efficiency than pure equal probability of selection (EPSEM) samples. With this approach, the counts of telephones within each working block (a block with one or more listed telephone numbers) are first examined to decide which should be included in the sample and which should be discarded. For this poll, those blocks with only one listed telephone number were excluded so

dialing would be more efficient and coverage would be marginally greater.[35]

The phone list vender, SSI®, offers the option of protecting Random A samples against reuse. In tracking surveys, the practical consideration of not calling the same sample in subsequent time frames is a benefit that may be viewed to outweigh the potential bias of not replacing numbers. Virtually every SSI® Random A sample is marked on the database to protect against reuse for a period of nine months. The SSI® Protection System was designed to reduce the chance of selecting the same number for multiple projects or multiple waves of a single project conducted by a single research firm or by competing research firms.

Interviewing Hours

Interviews were conducted from April 24 to June 8, 2003 during the evening and weekend hours for the time zone in which the respondent lived. Specifically, interviews were conducted from 4 pm through 9 pm respondent time Sunday through Friday, and 10 am through 6 pm on Saturdays.

The low density stratum was fielded out of Wirthlin's® phone center located in Orem, Utah. The high density stratum was fielded by Wirthlin's® partner Directions in Research (DIR) ® located in San Diego, California. The two strata were separated because DIR® has specialized interviewers that are trained to conduct interviews with minorities, specifically Hispanics and African Americans and to speed data collection time. Post-hoc analyses were conducted following data collection to ensure that different response patterns were not obtained within the subgroups as a result of the data collection phone center. No significant differences were observed and the data were combined into a single dataset.

Sample Geography

Interviews were conducted in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia.

Business and Cellular Phone Numbers

Once a 10-digit telephone number was selected, the status of the number generated was compared to SSI's® list of known business and cellular numbers. SSI® maintains a database of over 11 million business and cellular telephone numbers, compiled from Yellow Page directories and other special directories. Numbers identified as business or cellular were screened prior to calling. On average, an RDD sample will contain 15 to 18 percent business and cellular phone numbers. Approximately half of these numbers can be identified and screened using SSI's® Business and Cellular Number Purge options prior to calling.

[35] Approximately 2.5 million blocks were identified as working (having one or more listed numbers). By raising the minimum acceptable block size from 1 to 3 or more (SSI's® default), further gains in efficiency could be achieved with only minimal reduction in coverage. Blocks with 1-2 listed numbers represent only 5.9% of all working blocks and only 0.3% of all listed telephone households. These listed numbers are far more likely to be keypunch errors or White Page business listings than only the listed number in a given block. SSI® uses a default minimum block size of 3 listed numbers, but this minimum may be adjusted up or down based on the user's specifications. Users can even sample from blocks with zero listed numbers, but efficiency may fall as low as 16%. Further, a 65% working phones rate with a Random B sample, a 55% rate with Random A and as low as 30% with an EPSEM sample should be expected.

Replicates

For this poll, the sample was identified and released in replicates (representative stand-alone mini-samples that are representative of the entire sample). When using a replicate system, the interviewers do not need to dial the entire sample as each replicate is designed to be representative of the entire sample. All replicates loaded were closed out and dialed until exhausted. A sample record was considered "exhausted" once it had obtained a final disposition, such as disconnected, completed, or refused. To manage cost, the sizes of the replicates were reduced as the interview period drew to a close.

Additionally, replicates were ordered proportionately to the sample allocation determined for the two strata. Replicates for Stratum 1 and Stratum 2 were released and dialed through evenly. A replicate for either stratum was not allowed to be closed unless the same replicate for the other stratum was exhausted as well.

Quotas and Thresholds

Because of the speed at which polls are conducted and the rate at which surveys are completed, it is often necessary to set quotas, or the minimum number of completed surveys for each area. This ensures a representative sample is obtained. Therefore, soft quotas, or targets for the minimum number of surveys to be completed, were placed on each region. The following "guides" for each region were set in place:

New England (5.06%)	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
Mid-Atlantic (14.33%)	New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
South Atlantic (18.73%)	Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, District of Columbia
East South Central (6.09%)	Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky
East North Central (16.01%)	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin
West North Central (6.82%)	Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota
West South Central (10.89%)	Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma
Mountain (6.33%)	Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
Pacific (15.75%)	California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii and Alaska

Additionally, soft quotas were placed on gender to approximate the most recent Census levels.

Although "soft" quotas were in place for this study, no telephone numbers or interviews were discarded or terminated as a result of the quota system. They were only used as a check during the data collection phase to alert phone center staff to possible problems.

Survey Implementation

Screening

Each household was screened for youth who met the following criteria:

- Youth at least 16 years old, and less than 22 years old
- Had never served in the U.S. Armed Forces
- Were not accepted for service in the U.S. Armed Forces (Service includes the active and Reserve Components of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard)
- Were not in a Military Delayed Entry Program (DEP), college ROTC, or one of the Service academies

Polling identifies all eligible respondents in the household and resolves the selection on the initial screen call. If there was more than one person in the household who met the criteria, the respondent in the household between the ages of 16 and 21 with the most recent birthday prior to the interview date was selected. If that individual was away at college (living in a dormitory, fraternity house or temporary housing) his/her telephone number and name was requested and placed in the callback queue. There was no *within household* substitution of the designated respondent, even if the designated respondent did not qualify for the interview (e.g., is currently in the military, etc.).

Callback Procedure

One initial call and a maximum of nine callbacks were allowed. If a household was not reached after ten calls, another randomly selected household was substituted.

Refusal Conversion

An active program of refusal conversion was used. All initial refusals were put into a queue to be worked by a group of interviewer specialists, trained and experienced in refusal conversion. Up to an additional three callbacks, conducted at different times and days, were made. If a household was not reached after three calls or if a second refusal occurred, a “hard” refusal was recorded on the final disposition.

Demographic Profile of Respondents

June 2003 Youth Poll Sample Yields -- HIGH DENSITY STRATUM

Business		9,605
Fax/ Cell/ Pager		4,438
Bad phone number		3,861
Final no answer		17,319
Final answering machine		708
Privacy manager		4,405
	Noneligible Units	40,336
Ineligible age		23,321
Ineligible college referral number/ refused		78
Ineligible Military DEP, ROTC, Service Academy		52
Ineligible refused ethnicity		17
Language		3,646
Deceased/ Retired		60
	Noneligible Respondents	27,174
Complete		878
	Interviews	878
Final busy		401
Designated respondent unavailable		176
	No Contact	577
Indefinite callback		810
Definite callback		46
Qualified terminate		168
Interviewer terminate		625
	Partial Interviews	1,649
Final refusal		4,163
	Total Refusals	4,163
Sample Dialed		74,777
Less Noneligible Units		40,336
Less Noneligible Respondents		27,174
Eligible Phone Numbers		7,267
Completed Interviews		878
Response Rate for All Eligible Numbers		12.08%

June 2003 Youth Poll Sample Yields -- LOW DENSITY STRATUM

Business		27,780
Fax/ Cell/ Pager		17,960
Bad phone number		72,563
Final no answer		55,438
Final answering machine		13,171
Privacy manager		8,339
	Noneligible Units	195,251
Ineligible age		65,275
Ineligible college referral number/ refused		257
Ineligible Military DEP, ROTC, Service Academy		103
Ineligible refused ethnicity		16
Language		2,393
Deceased/ Retired		24
	Noneligible Respondents	68,068
Complete		2,199
	Interviews	2,199
Final busy		2,630
Designated respondent unavailable		5,093
	No Contact	7,723
Indefinite callback		1,216
Definite callback		109
Qualified terminate		750
Interviewer terminate		590
	Partial Interviews	2,665
Final refusal		19,369
	Total Refusals	19,369
Sample Dialed		295,275
Less Noneligible Units		195,251
Less Noneligible Respondents		68,068
Eligible Phone Numbers		31,956
Completed Interviews		2,199
Response Rate for All Eligible Numbers		6.88%

Weight Construction

There were three main phases in the creation of the weights for Youth Poll 5: (1) Base Weights, which are the inverse of the probability of a respondents' inclusion in the sample, (2) Non-Response Adjustment, in which the respondents are weighted to account for non-respondents, and (3) Poststratification, where the weights are corrected to match population totals for certain demographic characteristics.

Base Weights

The base weights are calculated as the inverse of the probability of inclusion for the telephone line. This is done using the sampled telephone lines with known eligibility (whether eligible or not). This probability of inclusion equals the number of sampled telephone lines for which the eligibility is known, divided by the total number of telephone lines. This can be calculated given that we know the total number of lines in each stratum and the distribution of sampled telephone lines per interview disposition code.

For the "low-density" stratum, the total number of lines is approximately 207,433,000. The (initial) sample size is calculated as the number of sampled telephone lines for which the eligibility is known. There were 192,960 sampled telephone lines with known eligibility; these can be divided in two groups: 9,624 eligible telephone lines, which include "Definite Appointment", Indefinite Appointment", "Respondent Will Call Back", "Respondent never available", "Wouldn't give a forwarding number for person 16-21", "Qualified Terminate", and "Proceed with interview", and 183,336 non-eligible telephone lines, which include "Fax/Cell Phone/Pager", "Business number", "Bad Phone Number", "Deceased/Retired", "Office policy", and "No one 16-21 in HH".

Therefore, the probability of inclusion of a telephone line in the "low-density" stratum is, $192,960/207,433,000 = 9.3 \times 10^{-4}$ and the initial weight of a line in this stratum is the inverse of this number, 1075.

Similarly, for the "high-density" stratum there are a total of 42,489,200 telephone lines and 43,241 sampled lines with known eligibility. This includes 2,156 eligible lines and 41,085 non-eligible lines. The probability of inclusion for this stratum is $43,241/42,489,200 = 1.02 \times 10^{-3}$, with an initial weight 983 (see Table 1).

Table 1: Calculation of Initial weight

Stratum	Sampled Lines with Known Eligibility	Lines in Stratum	Prob. of Inclusion of Line	Initial Weight
Low-density Stratum	192,960	207,433,000	9.30E-04	1075
High-density Stratum	43,241	42,489,200	1.02E-03	983

At this step, all the sampled lines with known eligibility within a stratum have the same, non-zero, weight even if the line is non-eligible. This weight is at the telephone line level. In order to obtain a person-level weight, and get a zero weight for the non-eligible units, this "pre-weight" is multiplied by the number of eligible persons for the telephone line. This number of eligible

persons is zero for the non-eligible telephone lines, and now only eligible units have non-zero weights (see Table 2).

Table 2: Base Weight Adjustment

Number of Eligible Persons in Tel. Line	Base Weight
No Eligible Persons in House/Business	Initial Weight * 0 = 0
One Eligible person in household	Initial Weight * 1 (No adjustment)
Two or more Eligible Persons	Initial Weight * 2

These weights are called the "base weights" since they are, basically, the inverse of the probability of inclusion of the sampled elements, including non-respondents.

Non-Response Adjustment

The base weights are non-zero for all the eligible sampled elements, including non-respondents. This has to be rectified because there are no data for these elements and they must have a weight equal to zero. Since the "pattern" of non-response can differ for the two strata, that is to say, the likelihood of an element being a non-respondent can differ for the two strata; this adjustment must be made within each stratum.

This is accomplished by increasing the base weights of the respondents in each stratum to account for the non-respondents in their corresponding stratum. After this adjustment, the weights for the respondents are higher than the base weights and the weights for the non-respondents are zero, leaving the sample with respondents only.

This non-response adjustment is, for each respondent in each stratum, equal to the sum of the base weights in that stratum (for all respondents and non-respondents) divided by the sum of the base weights for the respondents. Therefore, the non-response adjusted weight for a given respondent is (original base weight) x (sum of base weights in the corresponding stratum) / (sum of base weights for respondents in the stratum) (see Table 3).

Table 3: Nonresponse Adjustment

Stratum	Sum of Weights for Respondents	Sum of Weights for Eligible Nonrespondents	Nonresponse Adjustment
Low-density Stratum	3,174,490	11,592,935	Base Weight * 4.65
High-density Stratum	1,128,041	1,730,841	Base Weight * 2.53

Poststratification of Weights

The final step in the calculation of the weights involves their modification in a way that the sample distributions of some important demographic characteristics are adjusted so that they are equal to the known distributions of the corresponding characteristics in the population. This is referred to as poststratification, and is used to reduce the variance of the estimates and to correct for under coverage in the survey of some types of units.

Poststratification adjustments were calculated by a two-dimensional raking procedure. Raking allows for the poststratification to marginal population totals of several variables simultaneously. This is one way used to ensure consistency between complete (population) count and sample data. Raking is used in situations where the interior cells of the cross tabulation are either unknown or sample sizes in some cells are too small for efficient estimation in poststratification to the whole cross-tabulation.

Four demographic characteristics, in two "raking dimensions", were used to post-stratify: Gender and Age (Raking Dimension 1), and Race/Ethnicity and Education (Raking Dimension 2). The population totals for these two cross-classifications for April of 2003 were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), (see Tables 4 and Table 5).

Table 4: April 2003 CPS for Raking Dimension 1 (GENDER by AGE)

GENDER	AGE	CPS Total
Male	**16**	2,140,881
Male	**17**	2,134,708
Male	**18**	2,079,477
Male	**19**	1,773,423
Male	**20**	2,095,456
Male	**21**	1,913,711
Female	**16**	2,095,298
Female	**17**	2,023,693
Female	**18**	2,002,735
Female	**19**	1,775,840
Female	**20**	1,906,680
Female	**21**	2,032,881
		23,974,783

Table 5: April 2003 CPSfor Raking Dimension 2 (RACE/ETH by EDUCATION)

RACE/ETHNICITY	EDUCATION	CPS Total
White, Non-Hispanic	**Less than high school**	7,957,468
White, Non-Hispanic	**High school, no college**	2,877,907
White, Non-Hispanic	**Some college, but no bachelors degree**	4,243,523
White, Non-Hispanic	**Bachelors degree or more**	78,585
Black, Non-Hispanic	**Less than high school**	2,008,963
Black, Non-Hispanic	**High school, no college**	696,188
Black, Non-Hispanic	**Some college, but no bachelors degree**	616,092
Black, Non-Hispanic	**Bachelors degree or more**	10,520
Hispanic	**Less than high school**	2,423,037
Hispanic	**High school, no college**	766,136
Hispanic	**Some college, but no bachelors degree**	698,210
Hispanic	**Bachelors degree or more**	25,175
Other, Non-Hispanic	**Less than high school**	768,891
Other, Non-Hispanic	**High school, no college**	290,926
Other, Non-Hispanic	**Some college, but no bachelors degree**	507,019
Other, Non-Hispanic	**Bachelors degree or more**	6,143
		23,974,783

Variance Estimation

The most straightforward types of samples, from a statistical standpoint at least, are simple random samples. In such samples the confidence limits for a proportion are influenced by the sample size of the sample, or particular subsample under consideration, and also by the value of the proportion.

The standard error[36] of a proportion *p* from a simple random sample of *n* cases is equal to:

$$\sqrt{p(1.0-p)/n} \qquad (3)$$

With a large number of cases, a symmetrical confidence interval around *p* would be approximated by:

$$p \pm z\sqrt{p(1.0-p)/n} \qquad (4)$$

where *z* is the appropriate value from the z-distribution. For a 95% confidence interval, for example, *z* = 1.96.

Significance of Difference between Two Proportions

In addition to estimating the sampling error around a single proportion, we often wish to test the significance of a difference between two proportions, such as the difference between the proportions of males interested in joining the military versus females. The following formula

[36] The standard error of an estimate is a measure of sampling error; it is defined as the standard deviation of the sampling distribution of the statistic. It is used to construct the confidence interval around the estimate.

produces a statistic that can be referred to a standard normal distribution, assuming a reasonably large number of cases:

$$z = \frac{p_1 - p_2}{\sqrt{p_e(1-p_e)\frac{n_1+n_2}{n_1 n_2}}} \qquad (5)$$

where:

$$p_e = \frac{n_1 p_1 + n_2 p_2}{n_1 + n_2} \qquad (6)$$

and p_e is the estimated population proportion, p_1 is the observed proportion (of male in our example) in the first group, p_2 is the observed proportion in the second group (of females in our example), n_1 is the number of cases in the first group, and n_2 is the number of cases in the second group.

Variance Estimation with more Complex Designs

The above variance estimation formulas however, are only appropriate for simple random samples. In complex samples, such as those used in the Youth Polls, that involve stratification and weighting, it is also necessary to take into account the effect that the sampling design has on the size of the standard errors.

Methods exist for correcting for this underestimation of the standard errors. Kish (1965)[37] defines a correction term called the design effect (DEFF) where:

$$DEFF = \frac{\textit{actual sampling variance}}{\textit{Variance expected from a random sample}} \qquad (7)$$

Thus, if the actual sampling variance in a complex sample is four times as large as the sample variance from a simple random sample with the same number of cases, the DEFF is 4.0. Because confidence intervals are proportionate to the square root of the variance, the confidence interval for such a sample would be twice as large (because the square root of 4 is 2) as the confidence interval for a simple random sample with the same number of cases. If an estimate of design effect is available, one of the simplest correction procedures to follow is to divide the actual number of cases by the design effect (thereby depreciating the actual number to its equivalent value in simple random sample terms) and then employ the standard statistical procedures that are available for application to simple random samples.

Significance testing for differences between fieldings of the Youth Poll

A trend over two fieldings of the youth poll is basically a comparison between estimates from two independent samples. Therefore, the design effects for a single estimated proportion are

[37] Kish, L. (1965). Survey Sampling. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

appropriate. For the majority of situations in the Youth Poll, tests for changes over time were done by estimating design effects as calculated from STATA® or another of the similar data analysis software programs and dividing *n* by the design effect to obtain an effective *n*. This effective *n* was then used in place of the actual *n* and the formulas appropriate for simple random sampling were conducted. Design effects for proportions and means, although not provided in this technical report, can be calculated by individual users or can be provided upon request from interested users of the data.

Variance estimation procedures for June 2003 Youth Pollestimates

To find confidence intervals and test hypotheses using the June 2003 Youth Poll data, it is necessary to find estimates of the variance for the estimated statistics, whether the statistics are means, proportions, correlations, or regression weights. Alternative approaches to finding effective *n* sizes based on design effects, as outlined above, may be required in certain situations for certain types of statistical testing. There are a number of different approaches to estimate the variability of (complex) parameters in complex surveys; two of the more common approaches are referred to as Linearization by Tailor series expansion and Replication, both of which take into account design effects but rely on readily available computer software to remove tedious hand calculations and adjustments.

Users are cautioned not to ignore the design feature (i.e., stratification and weighting) of the data collection for this survey in their significance test. Stratification, as done in the data collection for this survey, effectively allows the calculation of variance for a statistics that is based solely on within stratum variance. This variance estimate is almost universally smaller than the one that would be obtained if the data were treated as being collected using only simple random sampling. Ignoring the stratification will typically result in an over-estimation of the variance whereby the hypothesis testing conducted is biased.

In the majority of estimations done for the June 2003 Youth Poll, the technique used by the Joint Market Research Program (JMRP) to find variance estimates for the statistics reported from Youth Poll 5, is the replication method called “Jackknife”, as implemented using the software program WESVAR™. This approach, and two other alternative variance estimation approaches are outlined below. These are provided for users of this data who are familiar with significance testing and are comfortable with statistics involving some of the more complex issues surrounding variance estimation. These calculations can be done using Excel® or one of the other competing spreadsheet programs. For those familiar with data analysis programs such as WESVAR™, STATA®, SUDAAN®, or SAS®, appropriate variance estimation formulas can be obtained using some relatively straightforward programming. However, the above software programs do not handle variance estimation in identical ways so users should be aware of and comfortable with the assumptions of their chosen software program.

For users who require hypothesis testing but prefer not to use the formulas provided for hand calculation or are not familiar with one of the above listed software programs, a third option exists. JMRP is available to handle any hypothesis testing requests that users of this data have. Service requests will be given top priority, however, all users may feel free to submit requests. All that is required is an email to either Sean Marsh (marshsm@osd.pentagon.mil) or Jason Fors (forsjd@osd.pentagon.mil) that contains the analysis you would like to have completed. In your email please be as specific as possible so that JMRP can ensure that the correct analysis is conducted.

Jackknife Variance Estimation

For the stratified design used in the June 2003 Youth Poll, the Jackknife method proceeds as follows:

1. The full-sample estimate (of the mean or proportion) is obtained as usual, using the 3,077 observations, their weights, and stratum information, let it be $\bar{y}$.

2. 3,077 replications are formed. In each replicate one observation in the sample is deleted, let it be observation i. The sample weights of the retained observations in the corresponding stratum are increased by a factor of *(sample size in corresponding stratum) / (sample size in corresponding stratum – 1)*, and the weights for observations in the other stratum are kept unchanged, (see Table 6). These weights are called "replicate weights".

Table 6. Creation of "Replicate weights"

	Increasing factor for weights in stratum	
If unit i deleted in Stratum	High density Stratum	Low density Stratum
High density Stratum	878 / (878 - 1) = 1.00114	No increasing
Low density Stratum	No increasing	2,199 / (2,199 - 1) = 1.000455

3. For each replicate, using the 3,076 retained observations, the corresponding replicate weights, and the stratum information, an estimate of the mean or proportion is found, using the same method as for the full sample estimate, let it be $\bar{y}_{(i)}$, and it is called the "replicate estimate".

4. To find the variance estimate of the mean or proportion estimator, each of the replicate estimates is compared to the full-sample estimate, in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{var}(\bar{y}) = {} & \frac{878-1}{878}\left[(\bar{y}_{(1)}-\bar{y})^2+(\bar{y}_{(2)}-\bar{y})^2+\ldots+(\bar{y}_{(878)}-\bar{y})^2\right] \\ & +\frac{2{,}199-1}{2{,}199}\left[(\bar{y}_{(1)}-\bar{y})^2+(\bar{y}_{(2)}-\bar{y})^2+\ldots+(\bar{y}_{(2199)}-\bar{y})^2\right]\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

Alternative Method 1

The Jackknife method used in the calculation of variance estimates for the June 2003 Youth Poll, described in the preceding section, requires the calculation and storage of 3,077 sets of replicate weights as well as the calculation and storage of the 3,077 replicate estimates. There is a simplified method for this calculation, in which the variance estimator is calculated assuming the sample was obtained using a sampling scheme with replacement, instead of the without replacement actually used.

However, this assumption is not necessarily required. The trade off for this simplification is that the variance estimator is not unbiased for the true variance, but in many cases the bias is positive so that the simplified estimator is conservative (Särndal, C.E., et. al., 1992[38]). To calculate the simplified variance estimate, proceed as follows:

1. Let w_i be the weight for unit i. Let n_1 be the sample size in the "high density" stratum for the subpopulation of interest, and n_2 the corresponding quantity in the "low density" stratum. Let N_1 be the sum of weights for the n_1 elements in the subpopulation of interest in the "high density" stratum, and N_2 the corresponding quantity in the "low density" stratum.

2. Calculate the mean (or proportion for each stratum) using the weights. Call the (weighted) mean for the n_1 observations in the "high density" stratum $\bar{y}_1$, and the mean for the n_2 observations in the "low density" stratum $\bar{y}_2$.

3. Calculate the variance estimate for the mean or proportion as:

$$\text{var}(\bar{y}) = \frac{1}{(N_1 + N_2)^2}\left\{\frac{N_1^2}{n_1 * (n_1 - 1)}\left[\left(\frac{n_1 * w_1 * y_1}{N_1} - \bar{y}_1\right)^2 + \ldots + \left(\frac{n_1 * w_{n_1} * y_{n_1}}{N_1} - \bar{y}_1\right)^2\right] + \frac{N_2^2}{n_2 * (n_2 - 1)}\left[\left(\frac{n_2 * w_1 * y_1}{N_2} - \bar{y}_2\right)^2 + \ldots + \left(\frac{n_2 * w_{n_2} * y_{n_2}}{N_2} - \bar{y}_2\right)^2\right]\right\} \quad (9)$$

For example, if an estimation of a mean (or proportion) for the whole population in the June 2003 Youth Poll (ages 16 – 21) is being calculated, the variance will be addressed as:

$$\text{var}(\bar{y}) = \frac{1}{23{,}974{,}786^2}\left\{\frac{4{,}390{,}644^2}{878 * 877}\left[\left(\frac{878 * w_1 * y_1}{4{,}390{,}644} - \bar{y}_1\right)^2 + \ldots + \left(\frac{878 * w_{878} * y_{878}}{4{,}390{,}644} - \bar{y}_1\right)^2\right] + \frac{19{,}584{,}142^2}{2{,}199 * 2{,}198}\left[\left(\frac{2{,}199 * w_1 * y_1}{19{,}584{,}142} - \bar{y}_2\right)^2 + \ldots + \left(\frac{2{,}199 * w_{2199} * y_{2199}}{19{,}584{,}142} - \bar{y}_2\right)^2\right]\right\} \quad (10)$$

Alternative Method 2

Alternatively, in its most simplified form, the variance for significance testing may also be calculated using the following formula.

[38] Särndal, C.-E., Swensson, B. and Wretman, J. (1992). *Model Assisted Survey Sampling*. Springer-Verlag, New York.

$$\text{var}(\bar{y}) = \frac{1}{\left(\begin{array}{l}\textit{Sum of weights}\\ \textit{in str1} + \textit{str2 for}\\ \textit{group of interest}\end{array}\right)^2}\left\{\left(\begin{array}{l}\textit{Sum of weights}\\ \textit{in str1 for group}\\ \textit{of interest}\end{array}\right)^2\left[SE\left(\bar{y}_{\substack{str1,\ for\\ group\ of\\ iinterest}}\right)\right]^2\right. \tag{11}$$

$$\left. + \left(\begin{array}{l}\textit{Sum of weights}\\ \textit{in str2 for group}\\ \textit{of interest}\end{array}\right)^2\left[SE\left(\bar{y}_{\substack{str2,\ for\\ group\ of\\ interest}}\right)\right]^2\right\}$$

where $SE\left(\bar{y}_{\substack{str1,\ for\\ group\ of\\ interest}}\right)$ and $SE\left(\bar{y}_{\substack{str2,\ for\\ group\ of\\ interest}}\right)$ are calculated using the weighted observations within each stratum as usual.

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Appendix B

Analysis of Variance of Propensity By Demographic Groups

Table B1: Logistic Regression Results: Demographic Predictors of Propensity (Males and Females)

Significance Testing									
	F Values								
	General Military	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	Coast Guard	Comp. Reserves	Natl. Guard	Res.
Age	38.2**	17.9**	13.5**	18.7**	19.9**	9.1**	16.5**	4.8*	18.8**
Gender	101.0**	50.2**	24.7**	32.9**	43.1**	10.9**	49.6**	26.4**	31.5**
Race/Ethnicity	11.5**	10.4**	12.0**	17.6**	11.3**	7.6**	17.1**	10.6**	17.2**
Geographic Region	2.0*	1.0	0.8	1.9*	1.7	2.4**	2.6**	1.3	2.4**
Marital Status	2.3	2.1	0.2	0.4	1.4	7.2**	1.2	1.7	0.8
Employment Status	5.8*	5.4*	16.4**	7.0**	0.0	0.2	1.4	2.6	1.0
Hours Worked	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.4	2.7	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.7
Education Status	11.1**	9.6**	15.0**	8.7**	5.0**	2.1	5.2**	3.6**	4.7**
Education Level	2.4**	4.5**	4.4**	3.4*	3.5*	2.8**	5.4**	4.0**	4.9**

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01*

Table B2: Logistic Regression Results: Demographic Predictors of Propensity (Males)

Significance Testing									
	F Values								
	General Military	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	Coast Guard	Comp. Reserves	Natl. Guard	Res.
Age	17.2**	10.6**	7.2**	9.5**	5.6*	3.0	7.8**	0.2	12.4**
Race/Ethnicity	8.3**	7.2**	6.9**	8.9**	9.1**	4.5**	9.2**	5.8**	9.7**
Geographic Region	1.5	0.8	0.5	1.3	2.4**	1.5	1.9	1.0	2.6**
Marital Status	1.0	0.1	1.4	0.8	0.8	-	0.4	0.1	0.1
Employment Status	2.8	3.3	13.7**	3.1	0.7	0.1	1.4	0.7	0.9
Hours Worked	0.2	0.1	2.2	0.7	2.7*	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.2
Education Status	6.2**	6.1**	10.1**	7.9**	2.1	1.4	2.2	0.5	2.7*
Education Level	2.3*	2.7	4.8**	1.9	2.4	2.5*	4.6**	2.5	3.4*

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01*

Table B3: Logistic Regression Results: Demographic Predictors of Propensity (Females)

Significance Testing									
	F Values								
	General Military	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force	Coast Guard	Comp. Reserves	Natl. Guard	Res.
Age	30.5**	7.6**	6.0**	9.6**	20.0**	6.7**	9.8**	13.5**	6.2**
Race/Ethnicity	4.2**	4.8**	6.1**	9.3**	3.0*	3.6**	9.4**	7.6**	8.5**
Geographic Region	1.9	0.7	1.1	1.5	0.8	1.1	1.6	0.4	1.7
Marital Status	0.4	0.6	0.0	1.1	3.0	3.6	1.0	2.5	0.9
Employment Status	4.9*	2.6	3.5	4.7*	1.2	1.5	0.2	3.5	0.2
Hours Worked	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.3	2.8*	0.6	1.0	1.1
Education Status	8.2**	3.9*	1.8	4.8**	3.1*	1.5	2.9*	7.4**	2.0
Education Level	2.0	3.5*	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.5	1.9	2.7	1.6

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01*

Table B4: Propensity Difference by Race/Ethnicity (Males and Females)

Significance Testing				
		T Values		
(A)	(B)	General Military (A-B)	Active Composite Propensity (A-B)	Reserve Composite (A-B)
White (NH)		***P = .12***	***P = .17***	***P = .10***
(n = 1871)	Black (NH)	-1.66	-3.55**	-3.08**
	Hispanic	-5.06**	-6.55**	-5.89**
	Other (NH)	-1.63	-1.68	-1.28
Black (NH)		***P = .16***	***P = .26***	***P = .17***
(n = 463)	Hispanic	-2.93**	-2.30*	-2.14*
	Other (NH)	-0.34	1.01	1.13
Hispanic		***P = .25***	***P = .34***	***P = .24***
(n = 504)	Other (NH)	2.13*	3.05**	3.11**
Other (NH)		***P = .17***	***P = .22***	***P = .14***
(n = 239)				

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NH) = Non-Hispanic; P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B5: Propensity Difference by Race/Ethnicity (Males)

Significance Testing				
		T Values		
(A)	(B)	General Military (A-B)	Active Composite Propensity (A-B)	Reserve Composite (A-B)
White (NH)		***P = .18***	***P = .24***	***P = .14***
(n = 907)	Black (NH)	-1.29	-2.34*	-2.31*
	Hispanic	-4.44**	-5.24**	-4.40**
	Other (NH)	-1.36	-1.18	-1.04
Black (NH)		***P = .23***	***P = .35***	***P = .24***
(n = 188)	Hispanic	-2.46*	-1.97*	-1.27
	Other (NH)	-0.27	0.69	0.88
Hispanic		***P = .36***	***P = .46***	***P = .31***
(n = 234)	Other (NH)	1.90	2.53*	2.16*
Other (NH)		***P = .25***	***P = .30***	***P = .19***
(n = 118)				

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NH) = Non-Hispanic; P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B6: Propensity Difference by Race/Ethnicity (Females)

Significance Testing				
		T Values		
(A)	**(B)**	General Military (A-B)	Active Composite Propensity (A-B)	Reserve Composite (A-B)
White (NH)		***P = .06***	***P = .09***	***P = .06***
(n = 964)	Black (NH)	-1.85	-3.54**	-2.70**
	Hispanic	-2.84**	-4.17**	-4.04**
	Other (NH)	-0.86	-1.28	-0.72
Black (NH)		***P = .10***	***P = .19***	***P = .12***
(n = 275)	Hispanic	-1.09	-0.72	-1.54
	Other (NH)	0.51	1.50	1.42
Hispanic		***P = .13***	***P = .22***	***P = .17***
(n = 270)	Other (NH)	1.43	2.12*	2.75**
Other (NH)		***P = .08***	***P = .13***	***P = .08***
(n = 121)				

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NH) = Non-Hispanic; P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B7: Propensity Difference by Race/Ethnicity (Males and Females): Service Specific

Significance Testing								
		T Values						
(A)	**(B)**	Army (A-B)	Navy (A-B)	Marine Corps (A-B)	Air Force (A-B)	Coast Guard (A-B)	Reserves (A-B)	Nat. Guard (A-B)
White (NH)		***P = .08***	***P = .06***	***P = .06***	***P = .07***	***P = .04***	***P = .08***	***P = .05***
(n = 1871)	Black (NH)	-1.00	-3.41**	-3.04**	-3.23**	-2.61**	-3.15**	-2.86**
	Hispanic	-4.68**	-4.40**	-5.70**	-4.48**	-3.54**	-5.69**	-4.34**
	Other (NH)	-1.20	-1.31	-1.70	-1.27	-1.07	-0.78	-1.42
Black (NH)		***P = .10***	***P = .13***	***P = .11***	***P = .15***	***P = .08***	***P = .14***	***P = .10***
(n = 463)	Hispanic	-3.12**	-0.81	-2.20*	-0.61	-1.35	-2.19*	-0.88
	Other (NH)	-0.37	1.20	0.83	1.34	0.62	1.67	0.88
Hispanic		***P = .17***	***P = .15***	***P = .17***	***P = .16***	***P = .11***	***P = .20***	***P = .13***
(n = 504)	Other (NH)	2.33*	1.90	2.90**	1.99*	1.66	3.71**	1.73
Other (NH)		***P = .11***	***P = .09***	***P = .09***	***P = .10***	***P = .06***	***P = .09***	***P = .08***
(n = 239)								

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NH) = Non-Hispanic; P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B8: Propensity Difference by Race/Ethnicity (Males): Service Specific

Significance Testing								
		T Values						
(A)	**(B)**	Army (A-B)	Navy (A-B)	Marine Corps (A-B)	Air Force (A-B)	Coast Guard (A-B)	Reserves (A-B)	Nat. Guard (A-B)
White (NH)		***P = .12***	***P = .08***	***P = .09***	***P = .10***	***P = .05***	***P = .11***	***P = .07***
(n = 907)	Black (NH)	0.21	-2.39*	-2.17*	-2.85**	-1.54	-2.44*	-1.79
	Hispanic	-3.89**	-3.40**	-4.13**	-3.97**	-2.80**	-4.26**	-3.27**
	Other (NH)	-0.94	-1.11	-0.89	-1.11	-0.63	-0.23	-1.56
Black (NH)		***P = .11***	***P = .16***	***P = .16***	***P = .21***	***P = .09***	***P = .19***	***P = .13***
(n = 188)	Hispanic	-3.24**	-0.51	-1.27	-0.37	-1.31	-1.22	-0.76
	Other (NH)	-0.92	0.76	0.97	1.33	0.40	1.69	0.07
Hispanic		***P = .25***	***P = .19***	***P = .21***	***P = .23***	***P = .14***	***P = .25***	***P = .17***
(n = 234)	Other (NH)	1.95	1.26	2.30*	1.83	1.47	3.00**	0.80
Other (NH)		***P = .15***	***P = .13***	***P = .11***	***P = .14***	***P = .08***	***P = .11***	***P = .13***
(n = 118)								

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NH) = Non-Hispanic; P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B9: Propensity Difference by Race/Ethnicity (Females): Service Specific

Significance Testing								
		T Values						
(A)	**(B)**	Army (A-B)	Navy (A-B)	Marine Corps (A-B)	Air Force (A-B)	Coast Guard (A-B)	Reserves (A-B)	Nat. Guard (A-B)
White (NH)		***P = .04***	***P = .04***	***P = .03***	***P = .05***	***P = .03***	***P = .05***	***P = .03***
(n = 964)	Black (NH)	-2.46*	-2.89**	-2.65**	-2.01*	-2.45*	-2.45*	-2.83**
	Hispanic	-2.73**	-2.84**	-3.99**	-2.23*	-2.23*	-3.86**	-3.07**
	Other (NH)	-0.72	-0.69	-1.75	-0.56	-1.06	-1.04	-0.30
Black (NH)		***P = .08***	***P = .09***	***P = .08***	***P = .09***	***P = .07***	***P = .10***	***P = .08***
(n = 275)	Hispanic	-0.49	-0.37	-1.63	-0.01	-0.29	-1.67	-0.16
	Other (NH)	1.24	1.66	0.43	1.01	0.72	-0.88	2.69**
Hispanic		***P = .10***	***P = .10***	***P = .12***	***P = .09***	***P = .07***	***P = .15***	***P = .09***
(n = 270)	Other (NH)	1.61	1.85	1.90	1.07	0.89	2.33*	2.90**
Other (NH)		***P = .05***	***P = .05***	***P = .06***	***P = .06***	***P = .05***	***P = .07***	***P = .02***
(n = 121)								

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NH) = Non-Hispanic; P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B10: Propensity Difference by Marital Status (Males and Females)

Significance Testing				
		T Values		
(A)	**(B)**	General Military (A-B)	Active Composite Propensity (A-B)	Reserve Composite (A-B)
Single (NM)		***P = .16***	***P = .22***	***P = .14***
(n = 2954)	Widowed	--	--	--
	Separated	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	2.94**	2.09*	2.40*
Widowed		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***
(n = 4)	Separated	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--
Separated		***P = .05***	***P = .21***	***P = .14***
(n = 8)	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--
Divorced		***P = .06***	***P = .06***	***P = .23***
(n = 7)	Married	--	--	--
Married		***P = .08***	***P = .14***	***P = .07***
(n = 101)				

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NM) = Never Married; -- n < 10 (t-test not conducted); P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B11: Propensity Difference by Marital Status (Males)

Significance Testing				
		T Values		
(A)	**(B)**	General Military (A-B)	Active Composite Propensity (A-B)	Reserve Composite (A-B)
Single (NM)		***P = .23***	***P = .29***	***P = .19***
(n = 1418)	Widowed	--	--	--
	Separated	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	1.26	-0.36	0.43
Widowed		***P = .00***	***P =. 00***	***P = .00***
(n = 2)	Separated	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--
Separated		***P = .09***	***P = .34***	***P = .09***
(n = 5)	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--
Divorced		***P = 1.0***	***P = 1.0***	***P = 1.0***
(n = 1)	Married	--	--	--
Married		***P = .12***	***P = .33***	***P = .15***
(n = 19)				

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NM) = Never Married; -- n < 10 (t-test not conducted); P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B12: Propensity Difference by Marital Status (Females)

Significance Testing				
		T Values		
(A)	**(B)**	General Military (A-B)	Active Composite Propensity (A-B)	Reserve Composite (A-B)
Single (NM)		***P = .08***	***P = .14***	***P = .09***
(n = 1536)	Widowed	--	--	--
	Separated	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	0.71	1.57	1.65
Widowed		***P = .00***	***P =. 00***	***P = .00***
(n = 2)	Separated	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--
Separated		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .21***
(n = 3)	Divorced	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--
Divorced		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .19***
(n = 6)	Married	--	--	--
Married		***P = .06***	***P = .08***	***P = .05***
(n = 82)				

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NM) = Never Married; -- n < 10 (t-test not conducted); P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B13: Propensity Difference by Marital Status (Males and Females): Service Specific

Significance Testing								
		T Values						
(A)	**(B)**	Army (A-B)	Navy (A-B)	Marine Corps (A-B)	Air Force (A-B)	Coast Guard (A-B)	Reserves (A-B)	Nat. Guard (A-B)
Single (NM)		***P = .10***	***P = .09***	***P = .09***	***P = .10***	***P = .06***	***P = .11***	***P = .07***
(n = 2954)	Widowed	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Separated	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	1.90	-0.45	0.82	1.80	6.51**	1.34	2.68**
Widowed		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***
(n = 4)	Separated	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Separated		***P = .00***	***P = .05***	***P = .15***	***P = .21***	***P = .00***	***P = .14***	***P = .05***
(n = 8)	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Divorced		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .06***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .23***	***P = .23***
(n = 7)	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Married		***P = .05***	***P = .10***	***P = .06***	***P = .06***	***P = .01***	***P = .07***	***P = .03***
(n = 101)								

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NM) = Never Married; -- n < 10 (t-test not conducted); P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B14: Propensity Difference by Marital Status (Males): Service Specific

Significance Testing								
		T Values						
(A)	**(B)**	Army (A-B)	Navy (A-B)	Marine Corps (A-B)	Air Force (A-B)	Coast Guard (A-B)	Reserves (A-B)	Nat. Guard (A-B)
Single (NM)		***P = .14***	***P = .11***	***P = .12***	***P = .14***	***P = .08***	***P = .14***	***P = .10***
(n = 1418)	Widowed	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Separated	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	0.36	-1.25	-0.77	-0.47	9.47**	0.03	0.47
Widowed		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***
(n = 2)	Separated	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Separated		***P = .00***	***P = .09***	***P = .26***	***P = .34***	***P = .00***	***P = .09***	***P = .09***
(n = 5)	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Divorced		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = 1.0***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = 1.0***	***P = 1.0***
(n = 1)	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Married		***P = .11***	***P = .24***	***P = .19***	***P = .18***	***P = .00***	***P = .15***	***P = .07***
(n = 19)								

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NM) = Never Married; -- n < 10 (t-test not conducted); P = proportion for subgroup*

Table B15: Propensity Difference by Marital Status (Females): Service Specific

Significance Testing								
		T Values						
(A)	**(B)**	Army (A-B)	Navy (A-B)	Marine Corps (A-B)	Air Force (A-B)	Coast Guard (A-B)	Reserves (A-B)	Nat. Guard (A-B)
Single (NM)		***P = .06***	***P = .06***	***P = .05***	***P = .06***	***P = .04***	***P = .07***	***P = .05***
(n = 1536)	Widowed	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Separated	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	0.91	-0.09	1.33	2.51*	3.42**	0.98	2.73**
Widowed		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***
(n = 2)	Separated	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Separated		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .21***	***P = .00***
(n = 3)	Divorced	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Divorced		***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .00***	***P = .19***	***P = .19***
(n = 6)	Married	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Married		***P = .04***	***P = .06***	***P = .03***	***P = .03***	***P = .01***	***P = .05***	***P = .02***
(n = 82)								

Note: **p<.05, **p<.01; (NM) = Never Married; -- n < 10 (t-test not conducted); P = proportion for subgroup*

Appendix C

Annotated Questionnaire

APRIL 2003 DOD YOUTH POLLING
SPRING 2003 [DRAFT]
FIELDING DATES 04/23/03 – 06/09/2003
PROJECT NUMBER 8412

Notes for Users	This document is annotated to show variable names and data values. There are also "Notes for Users" when simpler annotation was not possible. There are two variables in the dataset not shown in this document: ID (a unique identifier), STRATA (sampling stratum) and WT (the analysis weight).

PROJECTED TIME: 20 minutes

Objective:

The objective of this research is to conduct regular quantitative polling among the youth audience. Each poll will assess and track propensity, employment and education status. The poll will also be tailored to include questions on current events or topical areas of interest. Wirthlin Worldwide will conduct telephone interviews with youth two times per year -- in April and October.

Target Audience/Screening:

Each household will be screened for youth who meet the following criteria:

- Are at least 16 years old, and less than 22 years old.
- Have never served in the US Armed Forces and are not, at the time of the interview, accepted for such Service (Service includes the active and Reserve components of the US Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard).
- Are not enrolled in postsecondary reserve officer's training corps (ROTC) programs

If there is an individual in the household who meets the criteria but is away at college (living in a dormitory, fraternity house or student housing) will ask for the telephone number.

If there is more than one person in the household who meets those criteria, we will select the respondent in the household between the ages of 16 and 21 with the most recent birthday prior to the interview date. If that individual is away at college (living in a dormitory, fraternity house or temporary housing), we will ask for the telephone number and name of the youth and place that number in the callback queue. There will be no within household substitution of the designated respondent, even if the designated respondent does not qualify for the interview (e.g., is currently in the military, etc.).

Target Field Dates:

Pre-test April 23-24, 2003
Launch study on April 25, 2003
Complete interviewing on June 9, 2003

Length:

This interview should last approximately 20 minutes.

Geography:

100% United States - including Alaska, Hawaii and the District of Columbia

Sample Size:

N=3,077

Target:

GENDER: Hard quotas. 52% Female; 48% Male. We will ask the following questions to all respondents that are turned away b/c of over-filled quotas: S10, S1, DEM2C, DEM10, DEM11, and DEM11A.

RACE/ETHNICITY: Soft quotas to be used for tracking

55%	White
24%	Black or African-American
1%	American Indian or Alaskan Native
4%	Asian (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese) AND Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (e.g., Samoan, Guamanian or Chamorro)
16%	Hispanic, Latino or Spanish

REGION: Wirthlin Worldwide is now using a 9-point Geocode (see attached)

1	New England (5.06%)	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
2	Mid-Atlantic (14.33%)	New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
3	East North Central (16.01%)	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin
4	West North Central (6.82%)	Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota
5	South-Atlantic (18.73%)	Delaware, DC, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida
6	East South Central (6.09%)	Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky
7	West South Central (10.89%)	Oklahoma, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas
8	Mountain (6.33%)	Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
9	Pacific (15.75%)	California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii and Alaska

Sample:

Random A sample with minimum of two working blocks. All sample will be screened for business numbers. Additionally, a stratified ransom sampling will be used. The exchanges will be stratified by concentration of the rare population, and over-sample the strata with high concentrations. After classifying the exchanges into strata, the telephone numbers in the exchanges with the higher proportion of members will be sample at a higher rate than the numbers in the other strata. This procedure is being used to improve the precision of estimates of African Americans and Hispanics.

Dialing Procedures:

Interviews will be conducted during the evening and weekend hours. The fieldwork will take place from an in-house telephone center located in Orem, Utah and at DIR's telephone center located in Los Angeles, CA. Both phone centers will utilize computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI).

Callback Procedures:

Plan an initial call and maximum of nine callbacks. If a household is not reached after ten calls, we will substitute another randomly selected household.

Callbacks will be scheduled on different days, different times of the day and in different weeks.

Refusal Conversion: All initial refusals will be put into a queue to be worked by a group of interviewer specialists, trained and experienced in refusal conversion. Up to an additional three callbacks, conducted at different times and days, will be made. If a household is not reached after three calls or if a second refusal occurs, a "hard" refusal will be recorded on the final disposition. Experience shows that between 10% and 14% of the competed interviews will come from refusal conversions.

Pre-test: We will conduct a pretest of the survey instrument on April 23-24 , 2003 in Orem, Utah telephone facility. We will conduct 30 interviews. If the pretest interviews go smoothly and no revisions are made to the questionnaire, they are included in the final data set. **No more than 5 interviewers should work on the pre-test, this will ensure that the pre-test does not conclude too rapidly.**

Sample Mgt & Replicates: We will release sample in replicates. All replicates will be dialed until exhausted and then closed out. Once a replicate has been loaded, it must be dialed all the way through before the study can finish. A sample record is considered exhausted once it has obtained a final disposition. This means that the interviewers must continue to dial and conduct interviews even if 3,000 complete interviews have been completed – interviewers must dial through the entire replicate. To eliminate having too many extra completes, smaller replicates will be loaded toward the end of the interview cycle. **NO NEW REPLICATE IS TO BE LOADED WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF COURTNEY ZEGARSKI .** Courtney can be reached during work hours at (703) 480-xxxx and during non-work hours at (202) 321-xxxx (home/ cell).

SCREENER AND INTRODUCTION **9.75 QUESTION POINTS, 3.25 MINUTES**

[**NOTE TO INTERVIEWER**: BE PREPARED FOR PARENTS TO ASK YOU (WHEN YOU ARE SCREENING OR DURING THE INTERVIEW) WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU ARE ASKING THEIR KIDS. WE WILL HAVE A PRINTED SHEET WITH A SCRIPTED ANSWER - YOU SHOULD KEEP THIS AT YOUR STATION]

SCRIPT IF PARENT WANTS TO KNOW MORE INFORMATION OR INTERRUPTS DURING THE INTERVIEW.

My name is _____ of Wirthlin Worldwide, a national independent research firm. I am calling for a study that is being conducted for the United States Government and am interested in speaking with your [son/daughter] about [his/her] opinions about being a young adult today and thoughts about potential careers. This study is very important, and results from it will be used by government officials, including congress, to develop important policy decisions. We are not trying to sell anything - we are only interested in [his/her] opinions. We also will hold [his/her] answers in the strictest of confidence - in no way will [he/she] ever be identified as a participant in this study. Furthermore, all information provided is protected under the Privacy Act of 1974. Would it be okay to talk to [him/her] about these issues?

IF PARENT WANTS TO KNOW MORE:
The survey contains questions about current education and employment status. There are questions dealing with their future plans - in particular after high school or college. The survey continues with questions related to the impressions that they have regarding various post-high school opportunities and ends with some basic demographic questions.

IF PARENT WANTS TO STAY ON THE PHONE WHILE THE SURVEY IS BEING CONDUCTED:
I am more than happy to have you listen in on this interview, but I need to stress that the answers have to be directly from the designated respondent and not you. If you have questions along the way I will be more than happy to answer them, but please refrain from answering my questions for your child.

IF THE PARENT WANTS TO CONTACT SOMEONE:
If you have any questions about the questionnaire, the confidentiality issue, or about the validity of the study and the government's involvement, please call Courtney Zegarski of Wirthlin Worldwide, at (703) 480-xxxx.

INTRO1_Q

INTRO1 Hello, I'm _____ of Wirthlin Worldwide, a national, independent research firm and I am calling for a study that is being conducted for the United States Government. We are interested in speaking with people between the ages of 16 and 21. Does your household include individuals between the ages of 16 and 21 who either live in the household or are away temporarily or living at school in a dormitory, fraternity or sorority house?

1. No
2. Yes
99. DK/REF

IF INTRO1=1, ASK S11, ELSE THANK AND TERMINATE

S11_Q

S11. How many individuals are there in your household between the ages of 16 and 21 who either live in the household or are away temporarily or living at school in a dormitory, fraternity or sorority house?

RECORD ANSWER
99. DK/REF [THANK AND TERMINATE]

IF S11 = 0, THANK AND TERMINATE
IF S11 > 0, ASK GPA

GPA_Q

GPA. We are conducting this study to find out the opinions and career paths of young adults and we would like to have the responses of the person between the ages of 16 and 21 who has had the most recent birthday. Could I please speak with that person? [INTERVIEWER: IF THE ANSWER IS NO, CLARIFY WHY]

1. Yes
2. No, respondent isn't available but resides in the household (i.e., not home)
3. No, respondent isn't available because they are temporarily away or living at school in a dormitory, fraternity or sorority house
4. No, respondent won't allow you to talk with them

IF GPA=1, WAIT UNTIL RESPONDENT GETS ON THE PHONE AND READ INTRO2.
IF GPA=2, ARRANGE CALLBACK
IF GPA=3, ASK S8
IF GPA=4, [TYPE EXIT AND CODE AS REFUSAL]

S8_Q

S8. We are conducting this study to find out the opinions and career paths of young adults and we would like to have the responses of the person who is away. Could I please have his/her first name and telephone number with area code?

1. No
2. Yes

IF S8=1, RECORD NAME AND NUMBER AND THEN THANK. PLACE NEW NAME AND NUMBER IN CALLBACK QUEUE.

IF S8=0, THANK AND TERMINATE

WHEN RESPONDENT BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 21 WITH THE MOST RECENT BIRTHDAY IS ON THE PHONE, READ INTRO2

PRIV1_Q

PRIV1 Hello, I'm _____ of Wirthlin Worldwide, a national, independent research firm. We are conducting a study to find out more about the opinions and career plans of young adults. The study is being conducted for the Department of Defense. Results of this study will be used in reports to Congress, and in the development of important policy decisions. For quality purposes, my supervisor may monitor this call. **(DO NOT PAUSE)**

All information you provide is protected under the Privacy Act of 1974. Your identity will not be released for any reason and your participation is voluntary. You are entitled to a copy of the Privacy Act Statement. Would you like a copy of this statement?

1. No
2. Yes, RECORD MAILING ADDRESS
99. DK/REF

S2_Q

S2. Just to confirm, what is your gender? [IF RESPONDENT REFUSES, ENTER GENDER BY OBSERVATION] **[1QP]**

1. Male
2. Female

[ASK EVERYONE]

S10_Q

S10. Are you a United States Citizen? **[1QP]**

1. No
2. Yes
99. DK/REF

S1_Q; S1M_Q; S1Y_Q

S1. What is your date of birth? [ENTER IN SIX DIGIT FORMAT MM/DD/YY] **[1QP]**

RECORD MONTH/DAY/YEAR
99. DK/REF

Notes for Users	S1_Q is age calculated from this question. S1M_Q is month of birth, and S1Y_Q is the year of birth.

IF AGE IS NOT BETWEEN 16-21 VERIFY BIRTH DATE ASK GPA
IF AGE IS BETWEEN 16 AND 21, ASK DEM2C

DM2C_Q

DEM2C. Have you ever been in the military, or are you in a delayed entry program (DEP), college ROTC, or one of the service academies? [MILITARY SERVICE INCLUDES ALL BRANCHES (FULL-TIME OR AS RESERVIST, NATIONAL GUARD), SERVICE ACADEMIES OR COLLEGE (NOT H.S.) ROTC. ALSO ENTER 'YES' IF ACCEPTED INTO SERVICE AND WAITING TO BEGIN.] **[1QP]**

1. No
2. Yes
99. DK/REF

IF DEM2C=0, ASK DEM10, ELSE THANK AND TERMINATE

DM10_Q; RACE_ETH

DEM10. Do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin? **[1QP]**

1. No
2. Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin.
99. DK/REF

Notes for users DM11_M99)	RACE_ETH (4 Categories, recoded from DM10_Q & DM11_M01-DM11_M06 &
	1 White Non-Hispanic 2 Black Non-Hispanic 3 Hispanic 4 Other Non-Hispanic

DM11_O1 - DM11_O6; DM11_O99; DM_11M1 - DM11_M6

DEM11 I'm going to read a list of racial categories. Please select one or more to describe your race. Are you…[READ PUNCHES 1-5.] [NOTE: IF RESPONDENT SAYS 'DON'T KNOW" OR DOESN'T MENTION A PUNCH BELOW, SAY: "WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING RACE CATEGORIES DO YOU MOST CLOSELY IDENTIFY WITH?"] [CODE UP TO 5 RESPONSES] **[1QP]**

0 = No
1 = Yes

DM11_O1	1.	White
DM11_O2	2.	Black or African-American
DM11_O3	3.	American Indian or Alaskan Native
DM11_O4	4.	Asian (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese)
DM11_O5	5.	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (e.g., Samoan, Guamanian or Chamorro)
DM11_O6	6.	[DO NOT READ] Other HISPANIC ONLY (Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin.)
DM11_O99	99.	DK/REF [THANK AND TERMINATE

Notes for users

DM11_O1-DM11_O6 capture the responses given during the interview to question DEM11. When a respondent replied "Other" (DM11_O6=1), the interviewer probed for clarification in DEM11A. The variables DM11_O1-DM11_O6 and DM11A_M1 – DM11A_M5 & DM11A_M9 were then combined to make the final race variables DM11_M1 - DM11_M6.

Original	Other Hispanic	Final	Description
DM11_O1	DM11A_M1	DM11_M1	White
DM11_O2	DM11A_M2	DM11_M2	Black or African American
DM11_O3	DM11A_M3	DM11_M3	American Indian or Alaska Native
DM11_O4	DM11A_M4	DM11_M4	Asian (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese)
DM11_O5	DM11A_M5	DM11_M5	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (e.g., Samoan, Guamanian or Chamorro)
DM11_O6	DM11A_M9	DM11_M6	Other HISPANIC ONLY (Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin.)

[IF DEM11=6 ONLY, ASK DEM11A]

DM11A_Q

DEM11A. In addition to being Hispanic, do you consider yourself to be [READ PUNCHES 1-5] [CODE UP TO 5 RESPONSES] **[.25 QP]**

0 = No
1 = Yes

1. White
2. Black or African-American
3. American Indian or Alaskan Native
4. Asian (e.g., Asian Indian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese)
5. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (e.g., Samoan, Guamanian or Chamorro)
8. Not Applicable
9. DK/REF

EDUCATION — 4.66 QUESTION POINTS, 1.55 MINUTES

[RESPONDENTS INCLUDE NON-CITIZENS]

EDU1_Q

EDU1. I'd like to ask you about your schooling. Are you currently enrolled in school or a training program? **[1QP]**

1. No
2. Yes
99. DK/REF

IF EDU1=1, ASK EDU2 ***[IF RESPONDENT IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL]***

EDU2_Q

EDU2. What grade or year of school are you in? [DO NOT READ, ACCEPT SINGLE RESPONSE] [IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS IN A GENERAL SENSE, FOR INSTANCE "COLLEGE" MAKE SURE YOU CLARIFY WHICH TYPE OF COLLEGE AND WHICH YEAR] **[0.75QP]**

1. Less than 8th Grade
2. 8th Grade

3. 9th Grade - High School
4. 10th Grade - High School
5. 11th Grade - High School
6. 12th Grade - High School

7. 1st Year College or University (Freshman)
8. 2nd Year College or University (Sophomore)
9. 3rd Year College or University (Junior)
10. 4th Year College or University (Senior)
11. 5th Year College or University

12. 1st Year Graduate or Professional School
13. 2nd Year Graduate or Professional School (MA/MS)
14. 3rd Year Graduate or Professional School
15. More than 3 Years Graduate or Professional (Ph.D.)

16. 1st Year Junior or Community College
17. 2nd Year Junior or Community College (AA/AS)

18. 1st Year Vocational, Business or Trade School
19. 2nd Year Vocational, Business or Trade School
20. More than 2 Years Vocational, Business or Trade School

99. DK/REF

IF EDU1=2 or 99, ASK EDU3 ***[IF RESPONDENT IS NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL]***

EDU3_Q

EDU3. What is the highest grade you have completed and received credit for? [IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS IN A GENERAL SENSE, FOR INSTANCE "I GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE" MAKE SURE YOU CLARIFY HOW MANY YEARS THEY WERE THERE AND WHAT TYPE OF COLLEGE THEY ATTENDED - FOUR YEAR, TWO YEAR, GRADUATE, ETC.] **[0.25QP]**

1. Less than 8th Grade
2. 8th Grade

3. 9th Grade - High School
4. 10th Grade - High School
5. 11th Grade - High School
6. 12th Grade - High School

7. 1st Year College or University (Freshman)
8. 2nd Year College or University (Sophomore)
9. 3rd Year College or University (Junior)
10. 4th Year College or University (Senior)
11. 5th Year College or University

12. 1st Year Graduate or Professional School
13. 2nd Year Graduate or Professional School (MA/MS)
14. 3rd Year Graduate or Professional School
15. More than 3 Years Graduate or Professional (Ph.D.)

16. 1st Year Junior or Community College
17. 2nd Year Junior or Community College (AA/AS)

18. 1st Year Vocational, Business or Trade School
19. 2nd Year Vocational, Business or Trade School
20. More than 2 Years Vocational, Business or Trade School

99. DK/REF

IF EDU2 =1,2,3,4,5,6, OR 99 *[IF RESPONDENT IS IN LESS THAN 8^{TH}, 8^{TH}, 9^{TH} , 10^{TH} 11^{TH} OR 12^{TH} GRADE – OR DOESN'T KNOW]* **OR EDU3=1,2,3,4,5, OR 99 ASK EDU4** *[IF RESPONDENT HAS COMPLETED LESS THAN 12^{TH} GRADE – OR DOESN'T KNOW]*

EDU4_Q

EDU4. Are you being home-schooled? **[.67 QP]**

0 No
1 Yes
99 DK/REF

IF EDU2=3,4,5,6 ASK EDU6A

EDU6A_Q

EDU6A. Do you go to a…? **[.33 QP]**

1 Private Religious School
2 Private School with no religious affiliation
3 Public School
99 DK/REF

IF EDU2=7-20 OR EDU3=3-20 ASK EDU6B

EDU6B_Q

EDU6B. Did you go to a…? **[.67 QP]**

1 Private Religious School
2 Private School with no religious affiliation
3 Public School
4 More than one of the above
99 DK/REF

IF EDU2 OR EDU3=3-20 ASK EDU5

EDU5_Q

EDU5. What grades do you or did you usually get in high school? **[READ RESPONSE CATEGORIES 1-7]. [IF RESPONDENT NEEDS CLARIFICATION, READ THEM THE NUMERICAL AVERAGES, OTHERWISE JUST READ THE LETTER GRADES] [1QP]**

1. Mostly A's (Numerical average of 90-100)
2. Mostly A's and B's (85-89)
3. Mostly B's (80-84)
4. Mostly B's and C's (75-79)
5. Mostly C's (70-74)
6. Mostly C's and D's (65-69)
7. Mostly D's and lower (64 and below)
8. Never in high school

99. DK/REF

DEMOGRAPHIC – EMPLOYMENT STATUS 2.7 QUESTION POINTS, 0.9 MINUTES

EMP1_Q

EMP1. Now, I'd like to ask you about your employment status. Are you currently employed either full or part time? **[1QP]**

1. Yes
2. No

99. DK/REF

IF EMP1=1 THEN ASK EMP2 ***[IF RESPONDENT IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED]***

EMP2_Q

EMP2. How many hours per week in total do you work at your job? **[0.7QP]**

RECORD RESPONSE

99. DK/REF

EMP5_Q

EMP5. How difficult is it for someone your age to get a full-time job in your community? Is it…[READ 1-4] **[1QP]**

1. Almost Impossible
2. Very Difficult
3. Somewhat Difficult
4. Not Difficult at All

99. DK/REF

FUTURE PLANS AND PROPENSITY	10.40 QUESTION POINTS, 3.5 MINUTES

FPP1_O01 – FPP1_O09; FPP1_O97 – FPP_O99; FPP1_M01 – FPP1_M17; FPP1_M97 – FPP1_M99

FPP1. Next, I'd like to ask you about your plans for the future. What do you think you might be doing [INSERT BASED ON RESPONSE TO EDU1 **[CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL OR TRAINING PROGRAM]** AND EDU2 **[WHAT GRADE OR YEAR OF SCHOOL ARE YOU IN]** AS FOLLOWS: [DO NOT READ LIST] [ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [PROBE UNTIL UNPRODUCTIVE] [PUNCH 5, 8 & 99 MUST BE SINGLE PUNCH]

IF EDU2 = 3, 4, 5 OR 6 **[RESPONDENT IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL AND IS IN HIGH SCHOOL]** *INSERT "once you finish high school?"*

IF EDU2 = 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 OR 20 **[RESPONDENT IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL AND IS IN COLLEGE, GRADUATE, JUNIOR/COMMUNITY OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL]** *INSERT "once you finish college?"*

IF EDU2 = 1 OR 2 OR IF EDU1 = 2 OR 99 **[RESPONDENT IS NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN SCHOOL OR IS IN 8TH GRADE OR LESS]** *INSERT "in the next few years?"* ***[1QP]***

0	No
1	Yes

FPP1_O01	1	Going to school full-time
FPP1_O02	2	Going to school part-time
FPP1_O03	3	Working full-time
FPP1_O04	4	Working part-time
FPP1_O05	5	Joining the Military/Service
FPP1_O06	*6*	Staying at Home
FPP1_O07	*7*	Doing nothing
FPP1_O08	*8*	Undecided / Have not decided yet
FPP1_O09	*9*	Community Service
FPP1_O97	*97*	Other, Specify _____
FPP1_O99	*99*	DK/REF

Notes for users	Original	After recoding Other, Specify	Description
	FPP1_O01	FPP1_M01	Going to school full time
	FPP1_O02	FPP1_M02	Going to school part time
	FPP1_O03	FPP1_M03	Working full time
	FPP1_O04	FPP1_M04	Working part time
	FPP1_O05	FPP1_M05	Joining the military
	FPP1_O06	FPP1_M06	Staying at home
	FPP1_O07	FPP1_M07	Doing nothing
	FPP1_O08	FPP1_M08	Undecided/ Have not decided yet
	FFP1_O09	FPP1_M09	Community Service
		FPP1_M10	Volunteer/Religious work
		FPP1_M11	Move/Travel

		FPP1_M12	Career
		FPP1_M13	Hobbies
		FPP1_M14	Family life
		FPP1_M15	Get a house
		FPP1_M16	Get a car
		FPP1_M17	Make money/Invest money
	FPP1_O97	FPP1_M97	Other specify
	FPP1_O99	FPP1_M99	Don't know/Refused

IF FPP1=5 ASK FPP2 *[IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY ARE GOING TO MILITARY]*

FPP2_Q

FPP2. You said you might be joining the military. Which branch of the service would that be? [DO NOT READ ANSWER CATEGORIES - FIT RESPONSE TO PRE-CODED ANSWERS.]

[IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS MORE THAN ONE BRANCH, PROBE: *Which branch are you most likely to join?*

IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS *NATIONAL GUARD*, CLARIFY WHETHER THAT IS ***ARMY NATIONAL GUARD*** OR ***AIR NATIONAL GUARD*** IF ***ARMY NATIONAL GUARD***, CODE AS **ARMY**, IF ***AIR NATIONAL GUARD***, CODE AS **AIR FORCE**.

IF RESPONDENT MENTIONS ***THUNDERBIRD*** OR ***STEALTH FORCE***, CODE AS **AIR FORCE**. IF THEY MENTION ***GOLDEN KNIGHTS*** OR ***GREEN BERET***, CODE AS **ARMY**.

IF THEY MENTION ***SAILORS, SEALS, BLUE ANGELS*** OR ***SUBMARINERS***, CODE AS **NAVY**.] **[0.25QP]**

1. Air Force
2. Army
3. Coast Guard
4. Marine Corps
5. Navy

90. Question not asked
99. DK/REF

IF FPP2 = 1 OR 2 ***[IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE AIR FORCE OR ARMY]***

FPP3A_Q

FPP3A. Which type of service would that be? Would it be… [READ 1-3]? **[0.25QP]**

1. Active Duty
2. The Reserves
3. The National Guard

99. DK/REF

IF FPP2 = 3, 4 OR 5 ***[IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE COAST GUARD, MARINE CORPS OR NAVY]***

FPP3B_Q

FPP3B. Which type of service would that be? Would it be… [READ 1-2]? **[0.25QP]**

1. Active Duty
2. The Reserves

99. DK/REF

IF FPP1=3 OR 4 ASK FPP4 *[IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY MIGHT BE WORKING]*

FPP4_Q

FPP4. You said you might be working. What type of job would you have? Would it be a temporary job while you finish school or training, any job you can get to support yourself, or a job that could begin a long-term career? **[0.5QP]**

1. Temporary job while you finish school or training
2. Any job you can get to support yourself
3. Job that could begin a long-term career

90. Question not asked

99. DK/REF

IF FPP1=1 OR 2 ASK FPP5 *[IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY ARE GOING TO SCHOOL]*

FPP5_Q

FPP5. What kind of school or college would you like to attend? [READ 1-5] **[0.5QP]**

1	High School
2	Vocational, Business or Trade School
3	2-Year Junior or Community College
4	4-Year College or University
5	Graduate or Professional School
90	Question not asked
99	DK/REF

[ASK EVERYONE]

FPP8_Q

FPP8. What is the highest grade or year of school or college that you would eventually like to complete? [If Respondent answers in a general sense, such as "finish college" then clarify TYPE and YEAR of school.] [DO NOT READ LIST] **[1QP]**

1	8th Grade
2	9th Grade
3	10th Grade
4	11th Grade
5	12th Grade (High School Diploma)
6	1st Year College/Junior or Community College/Vocational, Business or Trade School (Freshman)
7	2nd Year College/Junior or Community College/Vocational, Business or Trade School (Sophomore)
8	3rd Year of Four-Year College (Junior)
9	4th Year of Four-Year College (Senior) or Bachelor's Degree (BA/BS)

10 5th Year of College
11 1st Year Graduate or Professional School
12 2nd Year Graduate or Professional School or Master's Degree (MA/MS)
13 3rd Year Graduate or Professional School
14 More than 3 Years Graduate or Professional School or Doctorate (Ph.D.)
99 DK/REF

FPP9_Q

FPP9. Now, I'd like to ask you how likely it is that you will be serving in the military in the next few years? Would you say…[ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP AND READ 1-4] **[1QP]**

1 Definitely
2 Probably
3 Probably Not
4 Definitely Not
99 DK/REF

INSERT BLANK SCREEN

FPP10A_Q – FPP10E_Q; COMP1

FPP10. How likely is it that you will be serving on active duty in the [RANDOMIZE AND READ A-E]? Would you say… [ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP AND READ 1-4]? **[2QP]**

FPP10A_Q	A	Coast Guard
FPP10B_Q	B	Army
FPP10C_Q	C	Air Force
FPP10D_Q	D	Marine Corps
FPP10E_Q	E	Navy

1 Definitely
2 Probably
3 Probably Not
4 Definitely Not
99 DK/REF

Notes for users	COMP1 is a Composite Active Propensity for the four DoD Services. It is defined as the minimum response to the four variables QFPP10B (Army), QFPP10C (Air Force), QFPP10D (Marine Corps), QFFP10E (Navy).

NOTE TO CATI TECH: ROTATE FIRST/SECOND FPP11/11A AND FPP12/12A

FPP11_Q; COMP2

FPP11. How likely is it that you will be serving in the National Guard? [ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP AND READ 1-4] **[1QP]**

1 Definitely
2 Probably
3 Probably Not
4 Definitely Not
99 DK/REF

Notes for Users	COMP2 is Composite Reserve Propensity for the Reserves and the National Guard. If is defined as the minimum response to the two variables QFPP11 (National Guard), QFPP12 (Reserves).

IF FPP11 = 1 OR 2, ASK FPP11A

FPP11A_Q

FPP11A. Would that be the… [RANDOMIZE AND READ 1-2]? **[0.2QP]**

1 Air National Guard
2 Army National Guard
99 DK/REF

FPP12_Q; COMP2 (see note under FPP11)

FPP12. How likely is it that you will be serving in the Reserves? [ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP AND READ 1-4] **[1QP]**

1 Definitely
2 Probably
3 Probably Not
4 Definitely Not
99 DK/REF

IF FPP12 = 1 OR 2, ASK FPP12A

FPP12A_Q

FPP12A. Would that be the… [RANDOMIZE AND READ 1-5]? **[0.2]**

1 Air Force Reserve
2 The Army Reserve
3 The Coast Guard Reserve
4 The Marine Corps Reserve
5 The Naval Reserve
99 DK/REF

IF TWO OR MORE OF ANY ACTIVE, RESERVE, GUARD SERVICES ARE ANSWERED "DEFINITELY" OR "PROBABLY" IN QUESTIONS FPP10, FPP11 OR FPP12, ASK FPP14

FPP14_Q

FPP14. You mentioned you might serve in more than one military service. Which service are you most likely to serve in? [DO NOT READ ANSWER CATEGORIES, FIT RESPONSE TO PRE-CODE - ACCEPT SINGLE RESPONSE] [INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF ANSWER IS GENERAL, PLEASE CLARIFY IF ACTIVE DUTY, RESERVES OR GUARD.] **[0.25]**

1 Air Force
2 Army
3 Coast Guard
4 Marine Corps
5 Navy
6 Air National Guard
7 Army National Guard
8 Air Force Reserve

9 Army Reserve
10 Coast Guard Reserve
11 Marine Corps Reserve
12 Naval Reserve
99 DK/REF

[ASK ALL]

FPP15_Q

FPP15. Before we talked today, had you ever considered the possibility of joining the military? Would you say you…[ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP AND READ ANSWERS 1-3] **[1QP]**

1 Never Thought About It
2 Gave It Some Consideration
3 Gave It Serious Consideration
99 DK/REF

FPP17_Q

FPP17. Now, I'd like to ask you how likely it is that you will be serving in a Special Operations military job (such as Ranger, Seal or Pararescueman) in the future? Would you say…[ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP AND READ 1-4] **[1QP]**

1 Definitely
2 Probably
3 Probably Not
4 Definitely Not
99 DK/REF

FAVORABILITY **4 QUESTION POINTS, 1.33 MINUTES**

FAV1_Q

FAV1. Using all that you know or have heard about the US military, please rate the military using a 10 point scale where 1 means **VERY UNFAVORABLE** and 10 means **VERY FAVORABLE**. How would you rate the US Military? **[1QP]**

RECORD RATING
99 DK/REF

FAV2A_Q – FAVE2E_Q

FAV2. Using all that you know or have heard about the various branches of the US military, please rate each branch using a 10 point scale where 1 means **VERY UNFAVORABLE** and 10 means **VERY FAVORABLE**. How would you rate the [RANDOMIZE AND READ A-E]? **[2QP]**

RECORD RATING
99 DK/REF

FAV2A_Q A. Air Force
FAV2B_Q B. Army
FAV2C_Q C. Coast Guard

FAV2D_Q *D.* Marine Corps
FAV2E_Q *E.* Navy

FAV3A_Q – FAV3B_Q

FAV3 Now, using all that you know or have heard, please rate the National Guard and Reserves using a 10 point scale where 1 means **VERY UNFAVORABLE** and 10 means **VERY FAVORABLE**. How would you rate the [RANDOMIZE AND READ A-B]? **[1QP]**

RECORD RATING
99 DK/REF

FAV3A_Q *A.* Reserves
FAV3B_Q *B.* National Guard

FAV4_Q

FAV4. Using all that you know or have heard about military Special Operations (such as the Rangers, Seals or Pararescuemen), please rate military Special Operations using a 10 point scale where 1 means **VERY UNFAVORABLE** and 10 means **VERY FAVORABLE**. How would you rate military Special Operations? **[1QP]**

RECORD RATING
99 DK/REF

KNOWLEDGE OF MILITARY **1 QUESTION POINTS, .33 MINUTES**

KW2_Q

KW2. Let's talk about your knowledge of the U.S. military. Please use a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 means **NOT AT ALL KNOWLEDGEABLE** and 10 means **EXTREMELY KNOWLEDGEABLE**. Please tell me how knowledgeable you are about the U.S. Military. **[1QP]**

RECORD ANSWER
99. DK/REF

KW3_Q

KW3. Let's talk about your knowledge of military Special Operations (such as Rangers, Seals or Pararescuemen). Please use a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 means **NOT AT ALL KNOWLEDGEABLE** and 10 means **EXTREMELY KNOWLEDGEABLE**. Please tell me how knowledgeable you are about military Special Operations. **[1QP]**

RECORD ANSWER
99. DK/REF

ECONOMIC INDICATORS **2 QUESTION POINTS, .67 MINUTES**

IND2_Q

IND2. Are individuals more likely to have a good paying job in the military, in a civilian job or equally in both? **[1QP]**

1 Military

2 Civilian job
3 Equally in both
99 DK/REF

IND3_Q

IND3. Four years from now, do you think the economy will be better than, worse than, or about the same as it is today? **[1 QP]**

1 Better than
2 Worse than
3 About the same
99 DK/REF

CURRENT EVENTS **3 QUESTION POINTS, 1 MINUTES**

CUR8_Q

CUR8. Do you support or oppose US Military troops being in Iraq? **[1 QP]**

1 Support troops
2 Oppose troops
3 Neither (DO NOT READ)
99 DK/REF

CUR9_Q

CUR9. Do you feel the United States was justified in its decision to go to war with Iraq? **[1 QP]**

0 No
1 Yes
99 DK/REF

CUR7_Q

CUR7. Does the war in Iraq make you more likely or does it make you less likely to join the military? **[1QP]**

1 More likely
2 Doesn't change the likelihood (DO NOT READ)
3 Less likely
99. DK/REF

IF CUR7 = 1, 3

CR10_M01-CR10_M28, CR10_M96, CR10_M99; CR10_X01-CR10_X28, CR10_X96, CR10_X99

CUR10. Why do you feel the war in Iraq [INCREASED/DECREASED] your likelihood to join the military? **[3 QP] [PROBE "WHAT OTHER REASONS?" UNTIL UNPRODUCTIVE]**

Notes for users	Variable Name (M for Increased Likelihood, X for Decreased Likelihood)	Description
	CR10_M01/CR10_X01	It doesn't affect me
	CR10_M02/CR10_X02	Believe in the cause
	CR10_M03/CR10_X03	Patriotism

	CR10_M04/CR10_X04	Need direction
	CR10_M05/CR10_X05	Carry on family tradition
	CR10_M06/CR10_X06	Does not influence my decision
	CR10_M07/CR10_X07	Always wanted to join the military
	CR10_M08/CR10_X08	Good career/Benefits
	CR10_M09/CR10_X09	Educational benefits
	CR10_M10/CR10_X10	War helps the economy
	CR10_M11/CR10_X11	Opportunity to travel
	CR10_M12/CR10_X12	Would not consider military service
	CR10_M13/CR10_X13	Military already has enough people
	CR10_M14/CR10_X14	It means going to war
	CR10_M15/CR10_X15	Enlistment is too long
	CR10_M16/CR10_X16	Don't want to leave family
	CR10_M17/CR10_X17	Scared I might die
	CR10_M18/CR10_X18	I don't believe in the cause
	CR10_M19/CR10_X19	Medical condition
	CR10_M20/CR10_X20	Do not want to go overseas
	CR10_M21/CR10_X21	I have a hard time with orders
	CR10_M22/CR10_X22	Don't want to change my plans
	CR10_M23/CR10_X23	I lack military skills
	CR10_M24/CR10_X24	Don't want to kill or hurt others
	CR10_M25/CR10_X25	A family member/friend had a bad experience
	CR10_M26/CR10_X26	Has no affect on my life
	CR10_M27/CR10_X27	I don't want war
	CR10_M28/CR10_X28	Afraid of the draft
	CR10_M96/CR10_X96	Other
	CR10_M99/CR10_X99	Don't know/Refused

IF CUR7 = 2

CR10_A01-CR10_A28, CR10_A96, CR10_A99

CUR10A. Why do you feel the war in Iraq did not affect you likelihood to join the military? **[3 QP]**

[PROBE "WHAT OTHER REASONS?" UNTIL UNPRODUCTIVE]

Notes for users	Variable Name	Description
	CR10_A01	It doesn't affect me
	CR10_A02	Believe in the cause
	CR10_A03	Patriotism
	CR10_A04	Need direction
	CR10_A05	Carry on family tradition
	CR10_A06	Does not influence my decision
	CR10_A07	Always wanted to join the military
	CR10_A08	Good career/Benefits
	CR10_A09	Educational benefits
	CR10_A10	War helps the economy
	CR10_A11	Opportunity to travel

	CR10_A12	Would not consider military service
	CR10_A13	Military already has enough people
	CR10_A14	It means going to war
	CR10_A15	Enlistment is too long
	CR10_A16	Don't want to leave family
	CR10_A17	Scared I might die
	CR10_A18	I don't believe in the cause
	CR10_A19	Medical condition
	CR10_A20	Do not want to go overseas
	CR10_A21	I have a hard time with orders
	CR10_A22	Don't want to change my plans
	CR10_A23	I lack military skills
	CR10_A24	Don't want to kill or hurt others
	CR10_A25	A family member/friend had a bad experience
	CR10_A26	Has no affect on my life
	CR10_A27	I don't want war
	CR10_A28	Afraid of the draft
	CR10_A96	Other
	CR10_A99	Don't know/Refused

APTITUDE **6.25 QUESTION POINTS, 2.1 MINUTES**

ASK IF EDU1=2 OR EDU2=7-20,99

APT1_Q

APT1. Do you have a regular high school diploma, a GED, ABE, high school completion certificate or some other type of certificate of high school completion? **[0.25QP]**

1 Regular High Diploma
2 GED (General Educational Development Equivalency Certificate)
3 ABE (Adult Basic Education, Correspondence, Night School)
4 High School Completion Certificate
5 Some other type of certificate of high school completion
6 None of the above
99 DK/REF

EDU3A_Q

EDU3A. What is the highest grade or year of school or college that your father completed? [IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS IN A GENERAL SENSE, FOR INSTANCE "MY FATHER GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE" MAKE SURE YOU CLARIFY HOW MANY YEARS THEY WERE THERE AND WHAT TYPE OF COLLEGE THEY ATTENDED - FOUR YEAR, TWO YEAR, GRADUATE, ETC.] **[1QP]**

1 Less than 8th Grade
2 8th Grade

3 9th Grade - High School
4 10th Grade - High School
5 11th Grade - High School

6 12th Grade - High School

7 1st Year College or University (Freshman)
8 2nd Year College or University (Sophomore)
9 3rd Year College or University (Junior)
10 4th Year College or University (Senior)
11 5th Year College or University

12 1st Year Graduate or Professional School
13 2nd Year Graduate or Professional School (MA/MS)
14 3rd Year Graduate or Professional School
15 More than 3 Years Graduate or Professional (Ph.D.)

16 1st Year Junior or Community College
17 2nd Year Junior or Community College (AA/AS)

18 1st Year Vocational, Business or Trade School
19 2nd Year Vocational, Business or Trade School
20 More than 2 Years Vocational, Business or Trade School

99 DK/REF

EDU3B_Q

EDU3B. What is the highest grade or year of school or college that your mother completed? [IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS IN A GENERAL SENSE, FOR INSTANCE "MY MOTHER GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE" MAKE SURE YOU CLARIFY HOW MANY YEARS THEY WERE THERE AND WHAT TYPE OF COLLEGE THEY ATTENDED - FOUR YEAR, TWO YEAR, GRADUATE, ETC.] **[1QP***]*

1 Less than 8th Grade
2 8th Grade

3 9th Grade - High School
4 10th Grade - High School
5 11th Grade - High School
6 12th Grade - High School

7 1st Year College or University (Freshman)
8 2nd Year College or University (Sophomore)
9 3rd Year College or University (Junior)
10 4th Year College or University (Senior)
11 5th Year College or University

12 1st Year Graduate or Professional School
13 2nd Year Graduate or Professional School (MA/MS)
14 3rd Year Graduate or Professional School
15 More than 3 Years Graduate or Professional (Ph.D.)

16 1st Year Junior or Community College
17 2nd Year Junior or Community College (AA/AS)

18 1st Year Vocational, Business or Trade School
19 2nd Year Vocational, Business or Trade School
20 More than 2 Years Vocational, Business or Trade School

99 DK/REF

Now I would like to ask you a few more questions about your education.

ASK IF EDU2=3,4,5,6
APT2A_Q
APT2A Is your high school program... [READ LIST] [SINGLE PUNCH]**[1.0 QP]**

1 Academic or College Preparatory
2 Community or Business Training
3 Vocational or Technical
99 DK/REF

ASK IF EDU2=7-20 OR EDU3=3-20
APT2B_Q
APT2B Was your high school program... [READ LIST] [SINGLE PUNCH]**[1.0 QP]**

1. Academic or College Preparatory
2. Community or Business Training
3. Vocational or Technical
99 DK/REF

ASK IF EDU2=3-20 OR EDU3=3-20
APT3A_Q – APT3H_Q
APT3 Now I have a list of high school mathematics and technical courses. As I read each one, please tell me whether you have taken and received credit for that course in regular high school. Have you taken or received credit for [RANDOMIZE AND READ A-H]? **[3.0 QP]**

0 No
1 Yes
99 DK/REF

APT3A_Q A. Elementary Algebra (Algebra I)
APT3B_Q B. Plane Geometry
APT3C_Q C. Business Math
APT3D_Q D. A Computer Science Class
APT3E_Q E. Intermediate Algebra or Algebra II
APT3F_Q F. Trigonometry
APT3G_Q G. Calculus
APT3H_Q H. Physics

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS **6 QUESTION POINTS, 2 MINUTES**

THE NEXT SET OF QUESTIONS DEALS WITH HEALTH ISSUES THAT PEOPLE YOUR AGE ARE FACING. THERE IS A LOT OF TALK ABOUT THIS SUBJECT, BUT VERY LITTLE ACCURATE INFORMATION. THEREFORE, WE STILL HAVE A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT THE ACTUAL EXPERIENCES AND ATTITUDES OF PEOPLE YOUR AGE. WE HOPE THAT YOU CAN ANSWER ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, BUT IF YOU FIND ONE THAT YOU FEEL YOU CANNOT ANSWER HONESTLY, PLEASE DON'T ANSWER.
REMEMBER THAT YOUR ANSWERS WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND ALL OF YOUR INFORMATION IS PROTECTED UNDER THE PRIVACY ACT.

MDRQ1_Q

MDRQ1. Can you tell me approximately what your height is? **[1 QP] [DO NOT READ LIST, ACCEPT SINGLE RESPONSE]**

1. < 4 feet 10 in
2. 4 feet 10 in
3. 4 feet 11 in
4. 5 feet
5. 5 feet 1 in
6. 5 feet 2 in
7. 5 feet 3 in
8. 5 feet 4 in
9. 5 feet 5 in
10. 5 feet 6 in
11. 5 feet 7 in
12. 5 feet 8 in
13. 5 feet 9 in
14. 5 feet 10 in
15. 5 feet 11 in
16. 6 feet
17. 6 feet 1 in
18. 6 feet 2 in
19. 6 feet 3 in
20. 6 feet 4 in
21. 6 feet 5 in
22. 6 feet 6 in
23. 6 feet 7 in
24. 6 feet 8 in
25. 6 feet 9 in
26. 6 feet 10 in
27. 6 feet 11 in
28. > 6 feet 11 in
99. DK/REF

MDRQ2_Q

MDRQ2. Can you tell me approximately what your weight is? **[1 QP]**

RECORD ANSWER in pounds
99. DK/REF

MDRQ3A_Q – MDRQ3E_Q

MDRQ3. Do you have a medical condition that would prevent you from… [READ LIST] [RANDOMIZE AND READ A - E]

0. No
1. Yes
99. DK/REF

MDRQ3A_Q	A. Running 2 miles
MDRQ3B_Q	B. Doing push-ups
MDRQ3C_Q	C. Doing pull-ups
MDRQ3D_Q	D. Swimming
MDRQ3E_Q	E. Doing sit-ups

MDRQ4A_Q – MDRQ4D_Q

MDRQ4. Have you…[READ LIST] [RANDOMIZE AND READ A - D]?

0. No
1. Yes
99. DK/REF

MDRQ4A_Q	A.	Ever been diagnosed with Asthma by a medical doctor
MDRQ4B_Q	B.	Ever been diagnosed with Diabetes by a medical doctor
MDRQ4C_Q	C.	Taken medicine prescribed by a doctor to improve attention, performance or behavior in the past year
MDRQ4D_Q	D.	Ever been diagnosed with high or low blood pressure

DRUG REQUIREMENTS **2 QUESTION POINTS, .67 MINUTES**

DRG1_Q

DRG1. Many companies these days are testing job applicants for drug use. These companies refuse to hire individuals who test positive for drugs such as marijuana, LSD, amphetamines, barbiturates, or heroin. If you took one of these drug tests today, do you think you would pass? **[1QP]**

0. No
1. Yes
99. DK/REF

DRG2_Q

DRG2. Are you or have you ever been dependent on drugs or alcohol? **[1QP]**

0. No
1. Yes
99. DK/REF

LAW1_Q

LAW1. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor? **[1 QP]**

0. No
1. Yes
99. DK/REF

IF LAW1=1, ASK LAW1A

LAW1A_Q

LAW1A. How many? **[.1 QP]**

1. One
2. Two
3. Three
4. Four
5. Five or more
99. DK/REF

LAW2_Q

LAW2. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? **[1 QP]**

0. No
1. Yes
99. DK/REF

IF LAW2=1, ASK LAW2A

LAW2A_Q

LAW2A. How many? **[.1 QP]**

1. One
2. Two
3. Three
4. Four
5. Five or more
99. DK/REF

LAW3_Q

LAW3. Are you currently under any form of judicial restraint such a bond, awaiting trial, probation, or parole? **[1 QP]**

0. No
1. Yes
99. DK/REF

DEMOGRAPHICS **3 QUESTION POINTS, 1 MINUTES**

THE LAST SET OF QUESTIONS ASK FOR SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF

DM3_Q

DEM3. Please tell me whether you are currently…[READ LIST] [NOTE TO INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY ARE DATING, IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH A SIGNIFICANT OTHER, HAVE A BOY/GIRLFRIEND – YOU MUST CODE THEM AS SINGLE] **[1 QP]**

1 Single and have never been married
2 Widowed
3 Separated
4 Divorced
5 Married
6 Something else, specify _____
99 DK/Ref

DM18_Q

DEM18. How many children do you have? **[1 QP]**

1 One
2 Two
3 Three
4 Four
5 Five or more
6 NONE
99 DK/REF[ASK DEM2]

DM20A_Q – DM20I_Q

DEM20. Has your **[INSERT A-I]** ever served in the U.S. military? **[3 QP]**

0. No
1. Yes
99. DK/REF

DM20A_Q A. Father
DM20B_Q B. Mother
DM20C_Q C. Brother
DM20D_Q D. Sister
DM20E_Q E. Uncle
DM20F_Q F. Aunt
DM20G_Q G. Grandparent
DM20H_Q H. Cousin
DM20I_Q I. Spouse

DM1_Q

DEM1. How many brothers and sisters do you have? Please include any stepbrothers and/or stepsisters if they live or have lived in your home. **[1 QP]**

1. One
2. Two
3. Three
4. Four
5. Five or more
6. None
99. DK/REF

ASK IF DEM1 = 2, 3, 4, 5
DM21A_Q
DEM21A. Are you [READ LIST] **[1 QP]**

1. The oldest child in your family
2. One of the middle children in your family
3. The youngest child in your family
99. DK/REF

ASK IF DEM1 = 1
DM21B_Q
DEM21B. Are you [READ LIST] **[1 QP]**

1. The oldest child in your family
2. The youngest child in your family
99. DK/REF

DM12_Q
DEM12. For research purposes only, please tell me your street address and zip code? Do you know your ZIP plus four? [9-digit ZIP code is preferred] **[1QP]**

[RECORD STREET ADDRESS]
[RECORD ZIP CODE]

[ASK DEM13 IF PRIV1=1]
DM13A_Q; DM13B_Q; DM13C_Q
DEM13. So that we may send you the copy of the Privacy Act of 1974 and for research purposes please tell me your address.

[RECORD STREET ADDRESS]
[RECORD CITY]
[RECORD STATE]
[RECORD ZIP CODE]
99 DK/REF

DM5_Q
DEM5. Finally, I would like to ask for your social security number. Recording your social security number is authorized by the President in Executive Order Number 9397. Defense Department social scientists match social security numbers to enlistment data to find out how the plans and opinions of American youth relate to enlistment rates. Your social security number, along with other information you have provided, is protected under the Privacy Act of 1974. Giving your

social security number is voluntary, and you will not suffer any consequences if you prefer not to release it. [PROBE: Could you please look it up? I'll wait.]

[RECORD AND CONFIRM SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.]
DK/REF

DM14_Q
DEM14. FIPS CODE ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

DM15_Q
DEM15. ZIP CODE **[FROM SAMPLE]** ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

DM16_Q
DEM16. May I please have your name in case my supervisor needs to verify that this interview actually took place?

Thank you very much for your time.